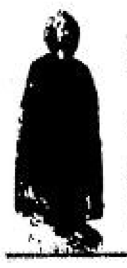


■ Lifestyle / D1

Creation myths and miraculous births in metal and wood

■ Across / A17

Another Bayan Muna leader shot in E. Samar

■ News / A2

NPA not knocking on Metro's door, say PNP officials

■ Business / B3-1

Teacher creates tools to make teaching easier

■ Sports / A25

DiMarco keeps Masters lead; Tiger on the prowl

4 Subic fishermen saved near Kalayaan

By Leila B. Salaverria

A TWO-WEEK ordeal on a drifting banca ended for four fishermen from Subic town in Zambales following their rescue early yesterday near the Kalayaan Islands, almost 300 nautical miles from where they had sailed out.

The fishermen were plucked from their

4 SUBIC/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Cassava makes sweet comeback in longest roll

By Villamor Visaya Jr.
PDI N. Luzon Bureau

PANG-GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ITO!

CAUAYAN CITY—Who's afraid of cassava? Not the residents of this city in Isabela.

After the bad rap the root

CASSAVA/ A6

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Monday, April 11, 2005 ★★ 76 pages 7 sections Vol. 20 No. 122 P18

website: www.inq7.net

Amid pressure, Burma assuming Asean chairmanship

MACTAN—Burma has rejected calls that it give up the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) next year because of its poor record in democracy and human rights as Southeast Asian foreign ministers arrived here yesterday for a three-day retreat.

Foreign Minister U Nyan Win said the European Union and United States could not force his military-ruled country to refuse the rotating chairmanship of the Asean.

"That is their attitude, not ours. We can decide ourselves because we are an independent country," U Nyan Win told reporters late Saturday as he arrived at this resort on Cebu island.

Asked if he felt his country's record on human rights and democracy qualified it to chair Asean, he said: "This is our responsibility. This is all the Asean [members'] attitude."

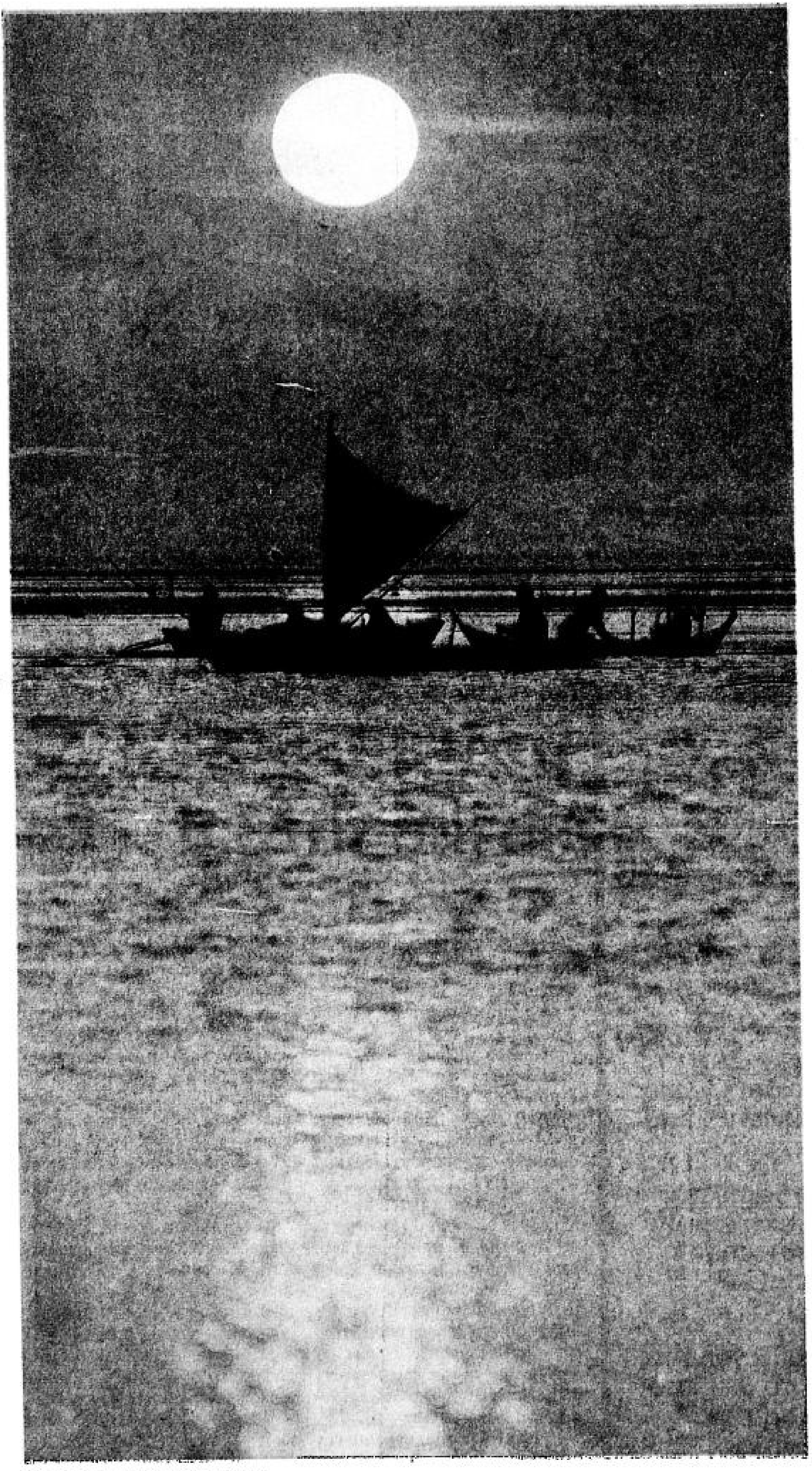
The issue of Burma's chairmanship in 2006 is looming large as ministers of the 10-member grouping were to meet for dinner yesterday and a retreat starting Monday.

The pressure is mounting for Burma not to take the chairmanship of the Asean.

Representatives Loretta Ann Rosales of Akbayan and Antonio Cuenco of Cebu City wrote the 10 foreign ministers attending the informal meeting to consider the resolutions issued by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Asean Inter-Parliamentary Burma Caucus (AIPMC).

The IPU resolution, which was adopted by the AIPMC during its meeting in Manila on April 2, opposed the assumption by Burma of

AMID/ A4



SAILING INTO SUNSET
Sunset over Calatagan. Sun hits water, fire explodes. Batangas fishermen see more beauty than people who stay on the shore.
MITCH MAURICIO

Senate OK of VAT seen in 2-3 days

Palace takes Drilon at his word

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.
and TJ Burgonio

AFTER being let down twice over the past three weeks, Malacañang is hopeful that the Senate will finally keep its word and approve the value-added tax (VAT) measure this week.

"Senate President [Franklin] Drilon promised us the Senate would pass the VAT [measure]," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita told reporters yesterday.

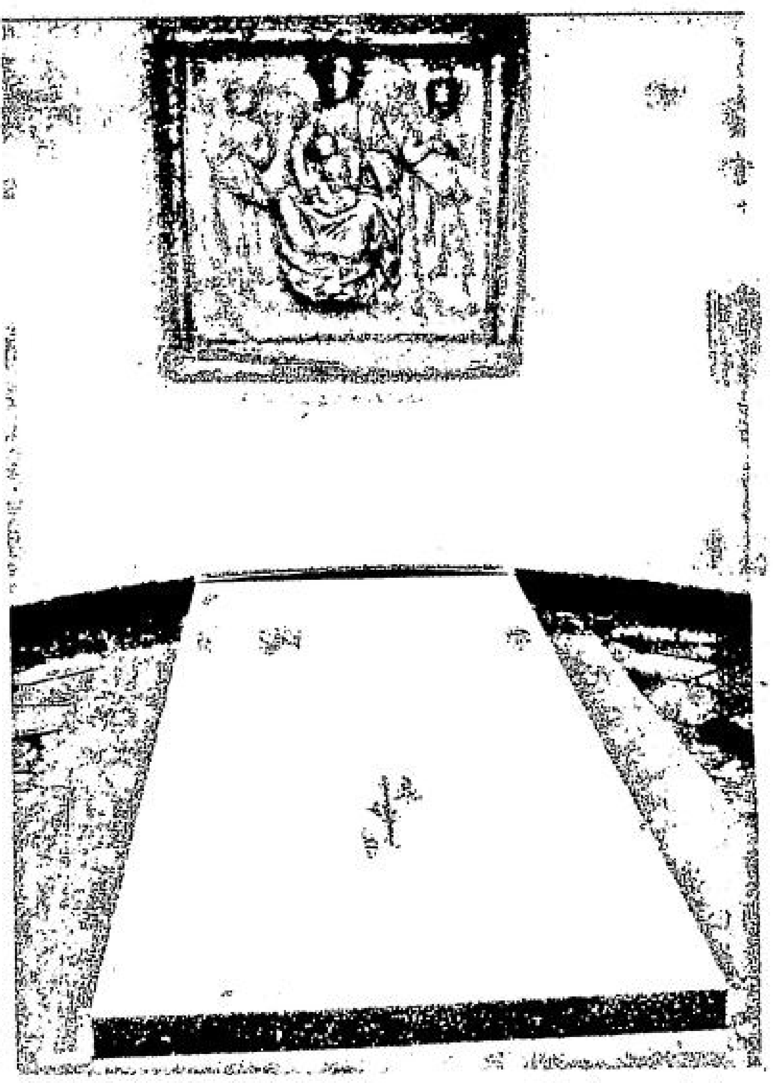
Congress resumes sessions today after a three-week break.

Sen. Ralph Recto also expressed confidence that the Senate would pass its version of the VAT measure this week though some senators predicted "spirited debates" on whether to retain the exemption of the power sector.

"I expect the Senate bill to be approved within the week ... Then Thursday and Friday, we can proceed with the bicam (bicameral conference). So in two weeks, I expect that (VAT bill) to be over and done with," said Recto, chair of the Senate committee on ways and means and sponsor of the bill.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had expected the superior number of her allies in the Senate would lead to the passage

SENATE/ A4



FINAL RESTING PLACE: Here lies Pope John Paul II, in the crypt in the grottoes beneath St. Peter's Basilica. AFP POOL PHOTO/OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope's death unleashes religious fervor in sin city

By Lito B. Zulueta

ROME—A city known for its pagan, bacchanalian feasts in ancient imperial days and equally earthly celebrations in contemporary times is witnessing an explosion of religious fervor unleashed by the death of one man.

Many pilgrims who flocked to Rome to pay homage to the late Pope John Paul II have lingered, not only to take in the sights but also to make the rounds of churches to attend Masses, pray the chaplets of the rosary and light votive candles.

"We are having an explosion of the faith quite unseen in recent memory," said Italian Msgr. Barni Auza. "And it's all because of the Pope."

Although Rome, with ancient churches just a stone's throw away from each other, has always been a center of the faith, it is also

POPE'S/ A6

Pope immortalized in monuments, railway station, etc.

IN A Polish cemetery, they inaugurated a monument in his name. In Rome, the main railway station will be renamed after him.

And in the Roman Catholic Asian country he loved, the Philippines, a sports tournament pitting Catholics, Muslims, Protestants and followers of other sects will be held in his honor to help fulfill his dream of an undivided humanity.

The 1.6-meter (5-foot-4-inch) high bronze monument to John Paul II was inaugurated Saturday at Rakowicki cemetery in Krakow, where the late Pope's family are buried.

Created by sculptor Czeslaw Dzwigaj, the monument depicts the

POPE/ A6

Agta lass makes Sierra Madre history

By Jerry E. Esplanada

PALANAN, Isabela—It was her stage presence that won the judges' hearts.

Unlike the 16 other contestants, she had thick, kinky hair, chocolate brown skin and bee-stung lips. At four feet and 11 inches, she was the smallest in the group.

But the 15-year-old girl with the peculiar features had a certain allure.

Like the huge crowd at the municipal stadium who rooted for Juliet Chavez all throughout the six-hour pageant, the seven judges (including this reporter) fell for her charms and declared her queen of this year's Sabutan Festival. The event was named after a shrub used as weaving material by the locals.

Aside from her crown and scepter, a huge trophy and P2,000 cash, the Grade 5 student from Barangay Alomanay won four special awards—Miss Friendship, Miss Talent, Miss Photogenic and Best in Sabutan Costume.

Chavez also made history by becoming the

AGTA/ A22

CROWD favorite Juliet Chavez (second from left) stands out as queen of the Sabutan Festival in Palanan, Isabela, with her court. She is the first Agta to join and win a beauty pageant.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005
E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Light to moderate winds blowing from the east and southeast will prevail over Northern Luzon and coming from the east and northeast over the rest of the country. The coastal waters throughout the archipelago will be slight to moderate.
SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with rains
Baguio	Partly cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with rains
Tuguegarao	Partly cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with rains
Laoag	Partly cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with rains
Clark Zone	Partly cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with rains
Tagaytay	Partly cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains
Legazpi	Partly cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains
Calapan	Cloudy with rains	Davao	Cloudy with rains

COMPILED BY: MIKE CUCIO, PDI RESEARCH/04/11/05

Cops pooh-pooh NPA presence

Police downplay military report Reds are at Metro gates

By Luige A. del Puerto

IF THE military believes that communist New People's Army rebels are already at the doorstep of Metro Manila, the police think otherwise.

"Really?" a senior Philippine National Police official sneered yesterday. "The military has been saying that 10 years ago. Maybe we should ask what the military has done since then."

The PNP official said he should know the situation since he had been a former regional police chief in Luzon.

"If what the military is saying were true, we should have seen a lot of military offensives on the outskirts of Metro Manila," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "But we don't see them (doing that), do we?"

Another senior police official asked, "Are you already seeing (NPA members) knocking at the doors of houses in Bulacan?" "You can assess the situation yourself. Your answer is as good as mine," he said.

General uprising

A secret military intelligence briefing paper intended for top Armed Forces officers said the NPA had forces in and around Metro Manila, waiting for the "general uprising" that would lead to an eventual takeover of power by the rebels.

The 38-page briefing paper said "progressive forces" engaged in mass actions support the NPA presence in the metropolis, and that daily street rallies were just "dress rehearsals" for the general uprising.

Yesterday, a few police officials hinted that the military may have gone too far in painting such a scenario.

"They're too alarmist," one official could not restrain himself from saying.

"The military's description of the NPA's ultimate target is true. The NPA has always planned to invade Metro Manila, but it has not reached the level described by the military," he said.

Lack resources

"Right now they [NPA] can't do it. They've always lacked the men and the resources," he said.

The briefing paper said: "Once the epidemia [sic] of discontent and agitation hits the nation, the subjective forces are built up and are ready to strike at their common opponent—the seat of political power."

Navy Lt. Commander Tedoro Quinzon, who conducted the briefing, said the paper was based on documents seized from, and statements made by, captured insurgents.

Quinzon said that contrary to reports that the NPA was losing the war, "encounters were happening in Bulacan, Batangas and Antipolo. We can hear them at the doorsteps of Metro Manila.

"Just because you don't see the NPA, [it does not mean] the enemy is not there. That is a false sense of security. We should be aware of what is happening around us and how people would influence other people," he said.

Ka Roger happy

Reacting to the military report, communist spokesperson Gregorio 'Ka Roger" Rosal was elated. "Now, the military is telling the truth. We are really at their doorstep," he said.

Rosal said the building up of strong NPA fronts in the provinces of Laguna, Rizal, Bulacan, Batangas and in some parts of Cavite had long been public knowledge.

"It's no longer secret. Our best Red fighters can be found in those areas. The growing strength of NPA guerilla fronts in those areas is remarkable," he said.

Rosal, however, was suspicious of the military report.

"They have long been downplaying the strength of the revolutionary movement. Now they are publicly reporting another thing," he said in a mobile phone interview.

Rosal said the military report was part of the Armed Forces' "scheming propaganda."

"The government now wants to justify the intervention of the US in their antiinsurgency campaign through their so-called war against terrorism," he said.

The militant group Kilusang Magbubukid sa Pilipinas accused the military of "diverting the issue."

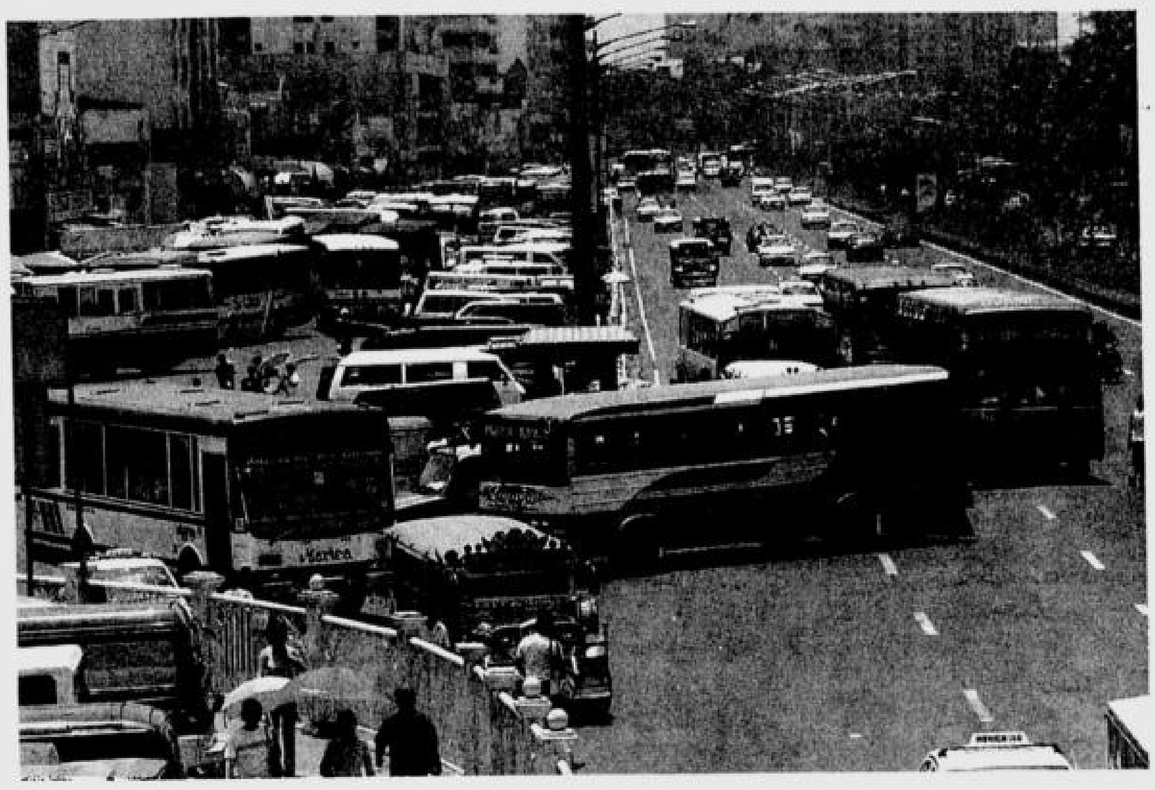
Air of fear

"They're trying to create an atmosphere of fear to justify their attacks on organizations like us," said Karl Ala, information officer of KMP.

Anakpawis party-list Rep. Crispin Beltran also denounced the military report that communist insurgents were now just outside Metro Manila.

Beltran said it was not the NPA but AFP that was preparing to launch attacks in Metro Manila even at the expense of civilians.

"They're bringing their manhunt of activists from the provinces to the metropolis," he said. *With reports from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau, and Michael Lim Ubac*



PUBLIC transport groups have threatened to paralyze Luzon in light of rising fuel and toll prices and other concerns. Yesterday, buses plying the Roxas Blvd.- Baclaran route continued to jam up the area by taking the lanes not meant for them. JESS YUSON

Palace unfazed by transport strike threat

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG is unperturbed by the threat of transport groups to paralyze Luzon for three days with a transport strike set to begin today, as it dismissed their concerns as "old hat."

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said all the issues being raised by the transport groups—the weekly increases in oil prices, exorbitant toll fees and corruption of traffic enforcers—had been raised and explained in previous dialogues.

"These are old issues and I have met with them [transport group leaders] three times on these matters. They all know that oil prices are high because of surging prices in the world market and that toll fees are high because of vast improvements in the North Luzon Expressway," Ermita said in an interview.

Ermita said the government was exhausting all efforts to ease the impact of rising world crude oil prices on the domestic market by promoting energy conservation and encouraging more gasoline stations to give fuel discounts to the public transport sector.

On the toll fee hike, Ermita said it was only proper that the private developer of the expressway—the Lopez-controlled Manila North Tollways Corp.—be compensated for its investment with higher toll fees.

Ermita, however, did not discuss the issue of corruption of traffic policemen and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) traffic enforcers.

National Land Transport Council president Ricky Papa said the three-day strike which would begin today would cripple transport routes all over Luzon because this was the first time that nearly 50 public transport groups—covering jeepneys, buses, FX taxis, metered taxis, tricycles and trucking companies—had agreed to join the protest action.

The transport groups are also demanding a hike in the minimum fares but Papa said they would rather have the government keep oil prices down because this had a bigger impact on the public.

Sr. Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, Philippine National Police spokesperson, said the police, military and MMDA would field trucks to ferry passengers who may be stranded in today's transport strike.

He reiterated the police's call to strikers not to harass or intimidate those drivers who might opt to ignore the strike.

"Just let them ply their routes. Do not harass or intimidate them," he said.

He urged commuters to text to 2920 or call 117 in case of emergency.

"We will be there any case there will be harassment," he said. *With Luige A. del Puerto*

Eatery owner abducted

JOLO, Sulu—A restaurant owner here was kidnapped by five unidentified armed men yesterday morning.

Renato Yanga, 47, owner of Topspot Restaurant on Serrantes Street here, had just opened his establishment at 5:15 a.m. when the men grabbed him and forced him into a waiting vehicle.

Senior Supt. Mario Yanga, Zamboanga City police chief and a cousin of the victim, said three of the abductors wore black camouflage uniforms.

Senior Supt. Sukarno Ikbala, police chief for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said the abductors used a red multicab and sped off toward Indanan town.

"I have alerted the Sulu Provincial Mobile Group as well as the Indanan police," Ikbala told the INQUIRER.

Annie Yanga, the victim's wife, said Renato was checking the cash register when the armed men arrived.

Topspot Restaurant is about five meters from the Jolo municipal hall and the Jolo police station. *Ed General and Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

COPW MESSAGE PART 3
TO CAP AND
CAP PLANHOLDERS

We thank you, parents, for the hundreds of text messages, telephone calls, email, fax and letters we received expressing your concerns, frustrations and anxiety over the unpaid payments by the College Assurance Plan (CAP) for the tuition of your children.

We have been in close consultation with SEC Chairperson Fe Barin. We ask CAP to tell the parents on when payments will be made in the following order of PRIORITY:

1. Tuition Fees advanced by the parents in October 2004 for the 2nd Semester (November 2004 to March 2005). How many Planholders were covered by CAP for this period and what is the balance to parents and schools that they have NOT yet paid?
2. Tuition Fees that will have to be paid this APRIL for the 1st Semester Schooling (June to October 2005), which Parents will find extremely difficult to advance again. Thus, we want CAP to disclose how many Planholders are covered for the 1st Semester and how much CAP must pay.
3. Tuition Fees can no longer be advanced by parents in OCTOBER for the 2nd Semester (November 2005 to March 2006). We want CAP to disclose the number of CAP scholars to be enrolled for this period and the amount that CAP has to pay pursuant to contract.
4. Tuition fees to be paid for each of the next four School Years : 2006 to 2010.

We are in complete agreement with SEC Chairperson Fe Barin that CAP should immediately advise the parents, the SEC and the COPW when and how the needed funds will be made available to CAP to take care of the total annual tuition fees from School Year 2005-2006 up to School Years 2009-2010.

These funds should be placed in a trustee bank approved by the SEC to make sure these funds are used exclusively to pay the tuition fees of the students as they fall due.

Finally, to the many parents who are asking whether they should continue making payments on their educational plans but their enrollment will commence beyond 2010, our advise is to await the results of CAP response on *ITEMS 1 to 4 above*.

CPW CONSUMER & OIL PRICE WATCH

RAUL T. CONCEPCION
Chairman

Text your comments to Hotline 0917-8103363
or call Direct Line 844-8785; Fax: 818-6203 • E-mail: rtc@cii.com.ph
To better serve the public, this ad appears in major newspapers and tabloids.

Education should involve everyone, reiterates Abad

By Jeffrey P. Maningo
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ILIGAN CITY—Education Secretary Florencio Abad has warned that Vietnam will overtake the Philippines in five years in terms of quality of education if reforms were not put in place today.

With less than two months to go before the next school year, Abad proposed the involvement of community and local government officials in managing schools.

Speaking before teachers, principals and division heads here, Abad said, "It's high time for the community and the local government sector to take part in running our schools because they, too, are major stakeholders in our educational system."

Under the program, not only teachers and principals but parents and local government leaders will form what Abad called "school governing councils," which would "strengthen and improve the local governance of basic education in the country."

This was not the first time Abad put forth his proposal.

He said the government should first decide what direction the education system should take, pointing out that Filipino students have been seriously lagging behind their Asian counterparts.

Abad cited an international study called "Trends in Math and Science Survey" conducted last year where the Philippines ranked at the bottom of 45 countries surveyed, scoring only "slightly better" than Micronesia, Croatia and South Africa. He did not say where Vietnam was on the list, however.

He said that given a 100-item test, Filipino grade school students only get 58 items right, while high school students only get a score of 44.

Disturbed by the study's findings, Abad said, "The academic achievement of our country has been consistently deteriorating for over three decades now."

He said government has been "under-investing" in education, the "root cause" of the Philippines losing the literacy ratings game now dominated by the more progressive countries like Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan—the countries that topped the survey.

This year, debt servicing took away 33 percent of the total national budget of P907 billion, with the education sector getting only 12.5 percent of the outlay.

"Unless we increase our budget for education, it would be difficult for us to turn things around," Abad told reporters here.

Compounding the problem is the inadequate number of classrooms. With 19 million students in the three education levels, DepEd needs to build 45,000 classrooms, he said.

But Abad refused to think only in terms of classrooms and teachers. He reported that the number of pupils attending school throughout the country is only 87 percent.

Abad cited Lanao del Norte which registered a participation rate of 71 percent and a completion rate of 45 percent.

"Indeed, only a few Filipinos are in to formal education," he said.

6.8 quake hits Sumatra

JAKARTA, Indonesia—A strong undersea earthquake struck near the Indonesian island of Sumatra on Sunday, causing people to flee their homes in fear of a tsunami, seismologists said.

No damage was reported, and the 6.8-magnitude temblor was not strong enough to cause a tsunami, meteorologists said.

The quake's epicenter was about 120 kms southwest of Padang, a city in western Sumatra, the Hong Kong Observatory said. The quake was recorded at 1035 GMT (6:35 p.m. in Manila), it said.

"Many people in Padang are panicking," said Yusuf, an official from Indonesia's Geophysics and Meteorology Agency who uses only one name. "People have left their houses, especially those living on the coast."

Tremors from the earthquake were felt in several areas surrounding the Malaysian city of Kuala Lumpur, national meteorological chief Chow Kok Kee told TV 3 news.

Sumatra was devastated by the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami and earthquake that killed nearly 183,000 people in 11 countries and left another 129,000 missing.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, was the hardest hit with at least 126,000 people killed and more than 500,000 left homeless, mostly in Aceh province on Sumatra. *AP*

Unpaid veterans threaten action

RETIRED soldiers and officers are threatening to call for civil disobedience against the government in protest over Malacañang's inaction on their demand for the payment of P17 billion pensions and other benefits due them over the past years.

But Malacañang yesterday appealed to some 300,000 veterans affected by the delayed payment of their pensions and other benefits to remain patient because the government was still scouring for funds.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said the call for civil disobedience would achieve nothing except to further destabilize the situation.

"I think the retired soldiers and officers are sensible enough to safeguard our security because they are the last ones to think of destabilizing the country," he said.

Ermita said his fellow retired soldiers and officers were all aware that the government was facing financial problems and that it had not allocated any money for the arrears in military pensions in this year's budget.

"They are asking for P17 billion but we are looking to pay a portion of that; one-third would probably suffice just to address their concerns. But we have to ask the Department of Budget first if we can get it from other sources," Ermita said in an interview with reporters.

Ermita said he had already made a recommendation for the government to draft a supplemental budget that would include the payment of the retired soldiers' pensions. However, Ermita said he still could not confirm whether the government had the money to put in the supplemental budget.

As a retired military officer, Ermita said that he too was affected by the delay in the payment of his pension but since he understood the state of the government's finances, he would not join his colleagues' call for civil disobedience.

"I'm not even sure whether you have the right information that they will go to the streets. I think they realize it is not that the President does not want to solve this problem, it's just that we don't have the money for this," Ermita said. *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

BETTER than the BEST CR-V

The country's No.1 SUV* is now better than before.

Luxurious comfort. Rugged urban style. Uncompromised power.

These made the CR-V what it is today. And now, we made it a whole lot better. Endowed with new domineering features for a more commanding experience.

Step inside the new CR-V and experience how the CR-V got even better.

Make your driving experience better than ever with these new features from the New CR-V.

NEW EXTERIOR STYLING New Front & Rear Design • Bigger 16" Alloy Wheels
PREMIUM PERFORMANCE 2.4 4WD with DBW & 5AT • 2.0 2WD • i-VTEC Engine
LUXURIOUS COMFORT Leather Interior (4WD) • Optitron with Fuel Efficiency Meter • 6CD In-dash with MP3 Stereo
STANDARD SAFETY Dual SRS Airbags • ABS w/ EBD + BA • Immobilizer • Wave Key

NEW CR-V

* Based on CAMPI sales reports for year 2004

Visit any authorized dealers for details!

HONDA
www.hondaphil.com

Facial Care Centre
Skin Awareness Month

Look Young, Feel Young
HAVE CLEAR, BLEMISH-FREE SKIN

Diamond Peel
The most advanced microdermabrasion treatment that exfoliates and effectively regenerates your skin: thoroughly rids skin of blackheads and whiteheads, refines pores and prevents breakouts, fades acne scars, dark spots and other blemishes, evens-out skin color and gives it a healthy glow, gives skin renewed elasticity and suppleness, and leaves skin softer, smoother, and more radiant! Right after the first treatment, you'll notice a completely new, beautiful, younger-looking skin revealed!

Erase ageing signs and turn back the years to younger-looking skin. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals NOW!

FREE 3 DIAMOND PEEL THERAPIES UPON ENROLLMENT FROM APRIL 11-16, 2005 ONLY.

Facial care centre

CALL 892-SKIN (7546)
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph
MAKATI • ORTIGAS • TOMAS MORATO • BINONDO • ALABANG • SHAW • CONGRESSIONAL • PAMPANGA (961-3404) • CEBU (233-7631)

Senate OK of VAT bill seen in 2-3 days

From page A1

of the VAT reforms by March 18. But the senators went on a Holy Week break without passing the much-needed revenue measure.

The President even called for a special session from March 30 to April 1, but the Senate again failed to approve the bill.

The House has already approved two versions: one increasing the VAT rate from 10 percent to 12 percent and another imposing multitiered rates.

Economists from the University of the Philippines had said an increase in the VAT rate to 12 percent was a basic component of any adequate formula to address the fiscal crisis.

The delay in the passage of the VAT reforms is costing the government P1.25 billion a week in foregone revenues and is eroding investor confidence in the economy as indicated by the sharp weakening of the peso and the stock market.

The VAT reforms are expected to generate P60 billion in new revenues or three-fourths of the P80 billion that Malacañang said the government needed to wipe out the budget deficit and solve its debt woes.

Time to decide

In an interview, Recto said "it's time to decide" because every minute detail of the VAT measure had been debated.

He said he expected the Senate to breeze through the period of individual amendments, and to approve the bill on second and third reading as early as Wednesday.

At today's session, senators will start introducing amendments to the measure, which seeks to retain the 10-percent VAT on goods and services, lift the exemptions on 12 commodities, and raise the corporate income tax by 32 to 35 percent.

The Senate managed to approve committee amendments at the close of the three-day special session on April 1 but fell short of approving the measure, drawing criticism from business leaders.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said a new VAT law would be passed, but "not in the form of the GMA-House version."

Drilon had earlier voiced a similar optimism, noting that the resolution of complicated issues during the special session had laid the ground for the approval of the Senate bill this week.

Sen. Richard Gordon and Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan agreed with Recto's view that the Senate would be able to approve its version of the VAT bill.

"We should be able to finish it by Wednesday. This will go smoothly by Wednesday. Hopefully, by Thursday we'll go to the bicam. I'm pretty optimistic about that. Much of the issues have been discussed," Gordon said in an interview.

2 session days

Besides, he added, the "real effort" at reconciling the Senate and House versions would take place at the bicameral conference committee.

Pangilinan said the senators had agreed that in order to avoid prolonged debates, contentious issues should be put to a vote.

Some opposition senators had also declared that they needed "no more than two session days" to debate and vote on the amendments, he said.

Pimentel, however, said the passage of the measure this week "depends on whether Serge (Osmeña) or Jamby (Madrigal) are done with their questions."

"And if the administration senators would readily accept our amendments. If not, it will be delayed," he said in a text message.

No pass-through

Pimentel said he expected a "spirited debate," particularly on the "no pass-through provision" during the period of individual amendments.

The provision, which Pimentel himself will introduce on the floor, bars companies from passing on additional costs to consumers. But, other senators are expected to oppose this and argue that VAT is basically a "pass-on tax."

Pimentel said independent power producers (IPPs) and telecommunication, shipping and airline companies should not be allowed to pass on costs to the public if their exemptions were lifted.

A no pass-through provision should be prescribed to ensure that the IPPs and telecommunication firms "entirely absorb the VAT, which they could very well afford given their ever-increasing corporate profits," he said.

Most of the senators favor retaining the 10-percent VAT rate but differ on whether to lift the exemptions long enjoyed by the power and petroleum sectors, among others.

Compromise version

To speed up the legislative process, Recto said he would meet with Rep. Jesli Lapus, chair of the House committee on ways and means, to discuss the possibility of coming up with a compromise version as Drilon had proposed.

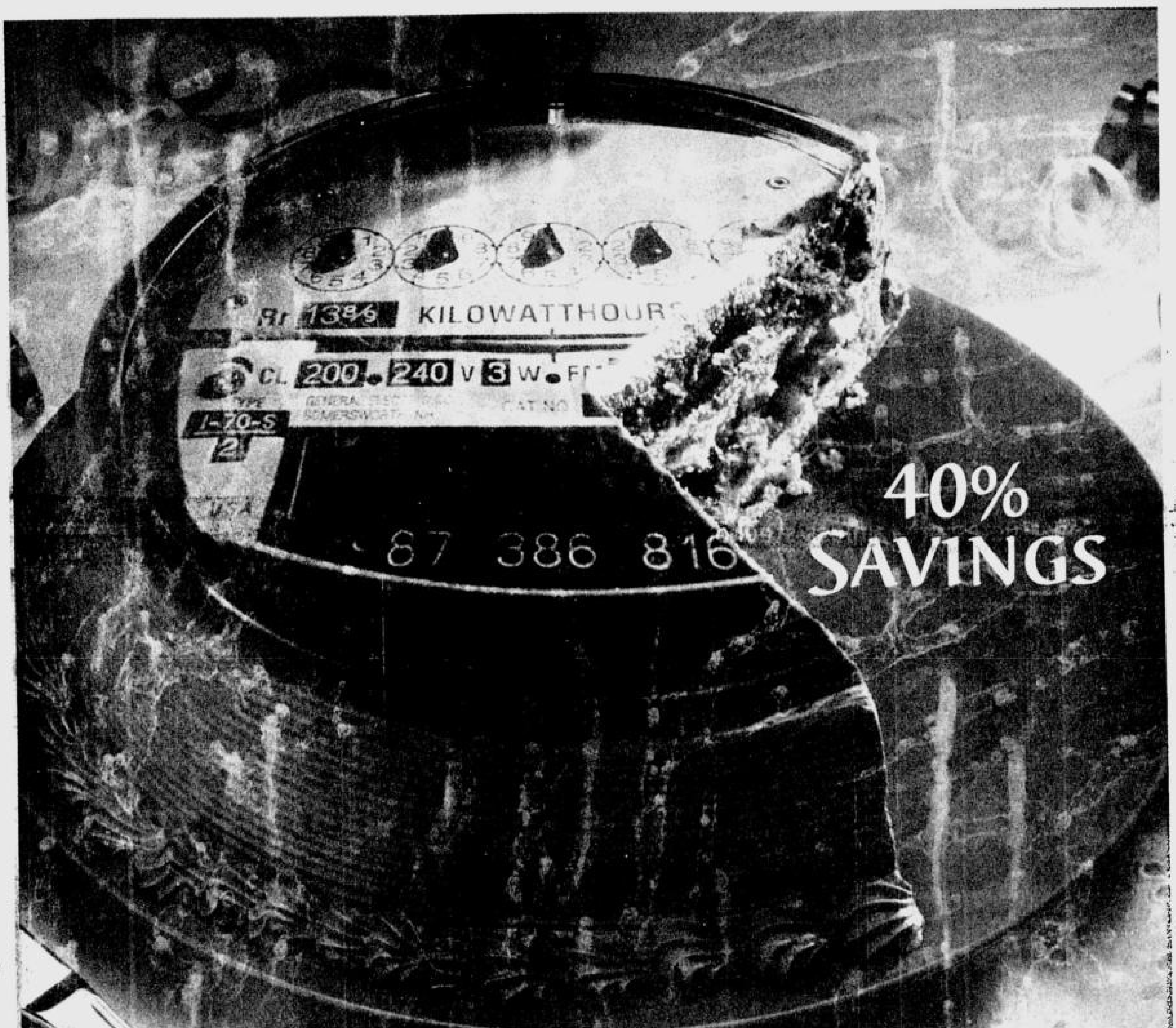
"I'm open to that ... to make the work faster. I'll call him up and initiate talks with the House," Recto said. "At the end of the day, we will reach a compromise."

Drilon had suggested that Recto and Lapus work out a compromise agreement on the VAT bill even before the Senate finalized its version.

Ermita said Malacañang was unaware of the details of the compromise being proposed by Drilon.

"Whatever it is, anything can be discussed during the bicameral conference committee and everything can be compromised,'" Ermita said.

WITH THE INCREASE IN POWER RATES...

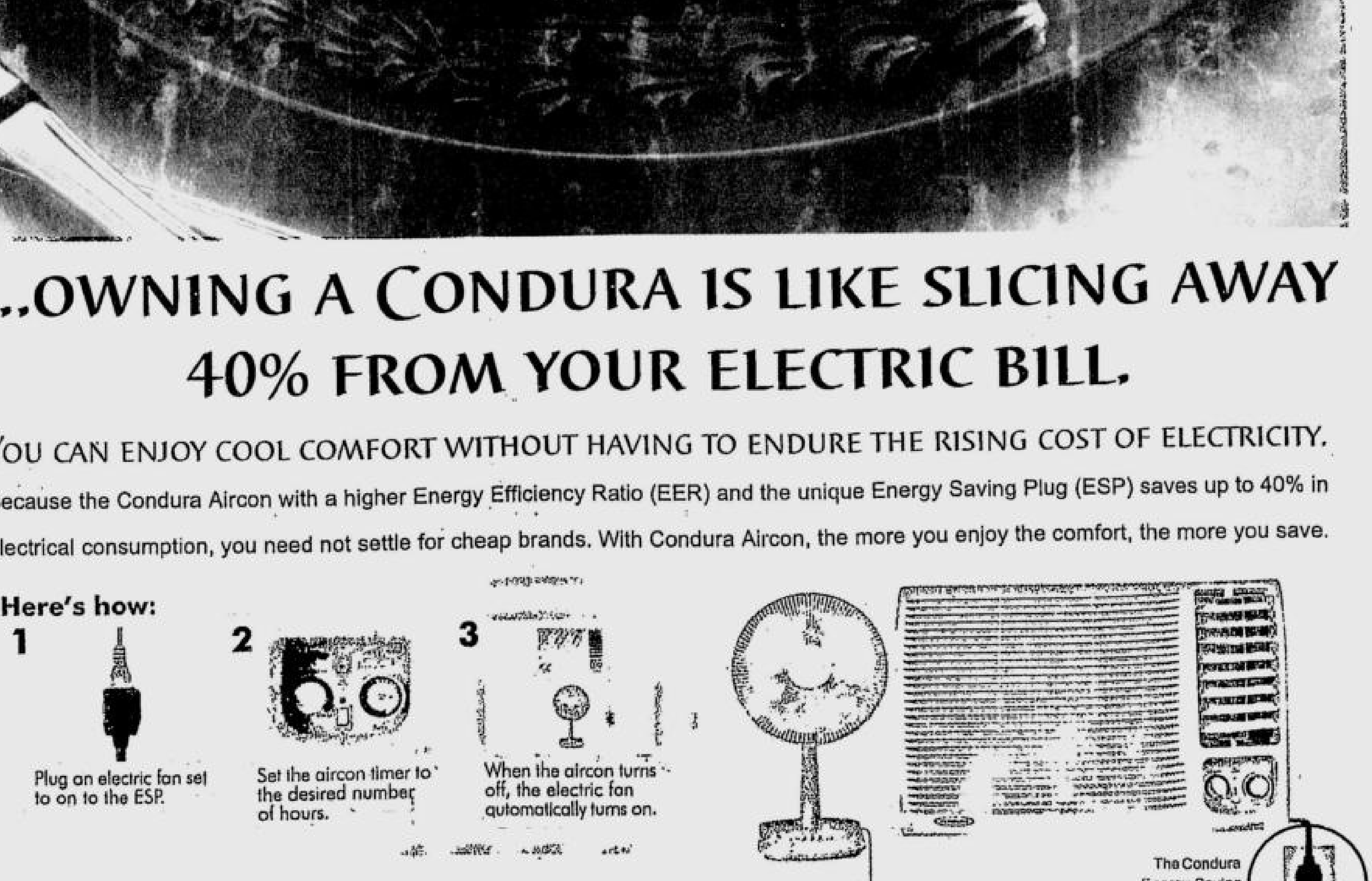


...OWNING A CONDURA IS LIKE SLICING AWAY 40% FROM YOUR ELECTRIC BILL.

YOU CAN ENJOY COOL COMFORT WITHOUT HAVING TO ENDURE THE RISING COST OF ELECTRICITY.

Because the Condura Aircon with a higher Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) and the unique Energy Saving Plug (ESP) saves up to 40% in electrical consumption, you need not settle for cheap brands. With Condura Aircon, the more you enjoy the comfort, the more you save.

Here's how:



1 Plug an electric fan set to on to the ESP.

2 Set the aircon timer to the desired number of hours.

3 When the aircon turns off, the electric fan automatically turns on.

The Condura Energy Saving Plug (ESP)

FASTXT 0917-8435555 0918-9175555

863 5555 CONCEPCION-CARRIER CUSTOMER CARE

CONCEPCION-CARRIER AIR CONDITIONING

CONDURA

AN EVEN BETTER CHOICE

Amid ...

From page A1

the Asean chairmanship until it complied with its promises of democratic reforms and respect for human rights, including the release of Aung San Suu Kyi of the National League of Democracy and other political prisoners.

"The two resolutions carry the sentiments not only of its parliamentarians of Asean but also of the Governing Council of the IPU, presenting its member parliamentarians from 144 countries, and through them, the voices of the people they represent," wrote Rosales and Cuenco, who were delegates to the IPU.

Rosales chairs the House committee on human rights, while Cuenco heads the House committee on foreign affairs.

While Asean adopts a policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of member-countries, Burma should not be allowed to assume the chairmanship because it has not instituted democratic reforms, a condition for its membership in the Asean in 1997, Rosales said.

Vigorous debates

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo acknowledged there were vigorous debates over Burma.

"Well, one thing about Asean is that we have to arrive at a consensus, but in arriving at a consensus we have to expect vigorous debate and that is expected," Romulo said at a press conference at the Shangri-La Resort Hotel.

He said the issue would be brought up during the informal meeting.

"But in the end, we have to consider the credibility (of Asean), what is good for Asean," he said. "I have full faith and confidence that each of the 10 members will have this always in their minds and in their considerations."

Asean's newer members Cambodia and Vietnam have said they will support Burma's chairmanship. New member Laos is also likely to back Burma while Thailand has said it believes in "constructive engagement."

Road map

The Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia, however, are pushing for a timetable for the junta's so-called "road map to democracy" and have repeatedly appealed for Burma to free Aung San Suu Kyi.

Singapore Foreign Minister George Yeo said Asean as a family would "discuss this with an open mind" but stressed it was a highly complicated problem.

"We have no preconceived solutions," Yeo told reporters. "While we may have our views, in the end they (Burma) bear the consequences of their own actions."

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said he and his fellow ministers would "discuss the matter and find something that will be acceptable to all."

Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, which won the elections in 1990 but was never allowed to rule, has rejected the junta's democracy road map. The US and the EU have also denounced it as a sham.

Analysts say that if Burma takes over the chairmanship in 2006 without moving toward democracy, Asean could become alienated from its Western allies.

If Burma took over, it would host in 2007 a major security forum traditionally attended by dialogue partners—the EU, United States, Australia, New Zealand, India, Japan, Korea, China and Russia.

Both Brussels and Washington, which have imposed tough economic sanctions on Burma, have warned they would boycott Asean meetings if policies were being steered by a country with a questionable track record.

Romulo noted that other Asean members like the Philippines "have expressed in no uncertain terms" their position that Burma should pursue the road map. *Reports from AFP and Connie E. Fernandez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Mikey Arroyo said to have slapped exec over quarry tax

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo was reported to have lost his temper and slapped a member of the Pampanga provincial board.

At least three local officials confirmed that President Macapagal-Arroyo's eldest son slapped Pampanga Board Member Nelson Calara over the latter's supposed inaction in the quarry tax controversy hounding the province.

The sources, who asked not to be named lest they lose an ally in the President's son, said the incident happened at noon on April 5 in a restaurant in this city.

Arroyo had just come from Lubao town where he attended the Mass held to mark the 58th birthday of his mother at St. Augustine Church.

The sources said Calara, who was summoned to a room in the restaurant, quietly but nervously took Arroyo's scolding.

"Mikey was angry. He didn't like the inaction of Nelson. He wanted him to exercise his responsibility," said one of the local officials, citing information from one of Arroyo's advisers who was in the room when the incident reportedly happened.

Calara, chair of the provincial board's natural resources committee, had voted against the resolution urging Gov. Mark Lapid to deputize the Natural Resources Development Corp. (NRDC) to collect the quarry taxes for the province.

NRDC chair Victor Corpus had presented the proposal to the board on Jan. 27 on the heels of the province's poor record in quarry tax collections.

According to one of the sources, Arroyo slapped Calara once but "hard" on the right cheek.

But Arroyo, reached by phone on Sunday, denied he had slapped Calara. "That's impossible," he said.

If he were angry at Calara, he said they would not be seen attending a wake together the following day.

"If I physically or verbally abused Nelson, why would we still be together the next day?" he said.

Arroyo said Calara had been his "friend" since he was vice governor of Pampanga between 2001 and 2004.

He said "rumormongers" wishing to destroy the First Family were behind the "false incident."

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach Calara to confirm the incident. His phone had been shut off since Friday when word about the slapping incident began to spread. He did not reply to text messages sent by the INQUIRER either.

Koronadal bomb suspect falls

TACURONG CITY—Military agents Friday arrested a man believed to have been behind the bombing of the Koronadal City public market in 2003.

Col. Jerry Jalandoni, chief of the Army's 604th Infantry Brigade based here, identified the suspect as Abdullah Kamsa, alias Abdullah Abas Kaagom and Abusama Abas, who lived in Datu Paglas, Maguindanao.

Reportedly found on him were an M-14 Armalite rifle with ammunition and bomb-making materials.

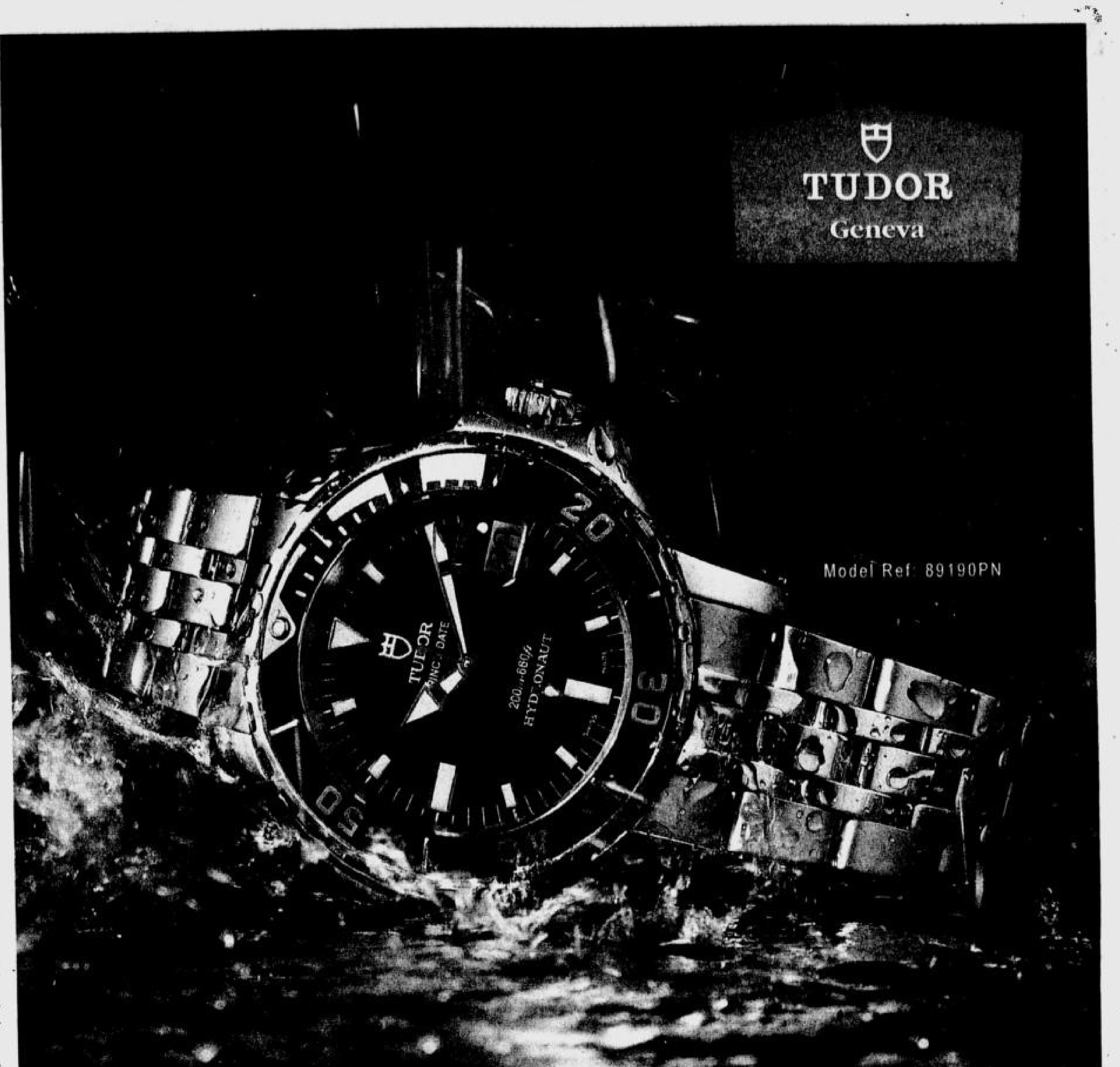
Jalandoni said his deputy, Maj. Ralph Raul Sespene, members of Task Force Talakudong and some policemen served the arrest warrant on Kamsa.

Kamsa was the principal suspect in the bombing of the Koronadal market that claimed at least nine lives and wounded a dozen others.

He claimed to have a brother in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front identified as Commander Kasan.

Records from the Regional Trial Court in South Cotabato showed Kamsa had also been accused of extortion and highway robbery.

Some witnesses pointed to him as the leader of the hijackers of a cargo truck loaded with some 450 sacks of rice on the highway in Buluan, Maguindanao, on Feb. 10. *Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



The Tudor Hydronaut

- Constructed of stainless steel or in a combination of steel and 18ct yellow gold.
- Screwdown winding crown.
- Waterproof-tested to 200 meters.
- Scratch-proof synthetic sapphire crystal.
- A variety of dials to choose from.
- Available in three sizes: Gents, Mid-size, and Ladies.

For service, please contact the Tudor Service Centre:
Corinthian Plaza, G/F, 121 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City Tel: 811-3320

PURCHASE TUDOR TIMEPIECES AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL TUDOR RETAILERS:

CHRONOS
- Level R1, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center
- G/F, Glorietta 3, Ayala Center
- Level 2, Alabang Town Center
- Space 029, Gateway Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao
- Level 2, Mega A, SM Megamall

CRYSTAL CARAT
- Upper G/F, SM City, Iloilo City

HOUR GLASS CENTER
- Level 2, Mega A, SM Megamall

LUCERNE JEWELLERS
- G/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center
- Level 2, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
- G/F, Ayala Center, Cebu

WASHINGTON JEWELRY EMPORIUM
- G/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center
- Level 3, Mega B, SM Megamall
- G/F, Harrison Plaza
- North Mall, Alabang Town Center

WASHINGTON WATCHES & JEWELRIES
- Level R1, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center
- G/F, Shangri-La Plaza Mall

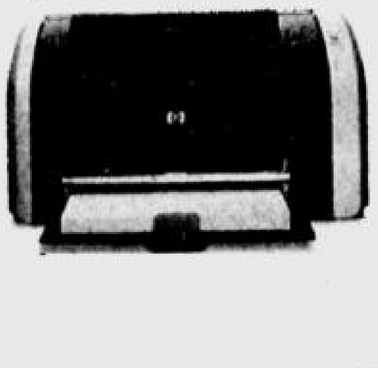
It's the must-attend event of 2005.

Get up to 50% discount on select HP printers. Trade-in Trade-up Promo Schedule: April 15-17 at SM Cyberzone 4F Megamall Building B, 10am - 7pm only.

Trade in your old inkjet printers, laser printers or fax machines, and get huge discounts on HP Laser Printers, HP All-in-One Laser Printers, HP A3 Inkjet Printers and HP Business Inkjet Printers.

+hp

Discounted prices start at P4,950



HP LASERJET 1010
Special Trade-in price
P4,950*
- monochrome laser printer
- Up to 12 pages per minute (letter/A4)
- 8MB RAM (maximum)
- USB port
- 1 year warranty

hp invent

CALL (632) 867-3557 Toll-free 1-800-1441-6688 EMAIL ph.contact@hp.com VISIT your participating hp reseller

©2005 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. All rights reserved. *Original SRP is P9,990. The HP Contact Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

See flyers for more details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1835, Series of 2005

Cassava makes sweet . . .

From page A1

crop got from last month's massive food poisoning in Mabini, Bohol, the cassava (*kamoteng kahoy*) made a sweet comeback.

Yesterday, some 4,000 residents and guests lined up to taste the kilometer-long cassava roll prepared by women's groups for the Gawag-away-an Festival. The native delicacy was consumed in about 10 minutes.

At least 500 members of the local chapter of the Isabela Green Ladies Organization (Iglo) and its allied organizations helped cook the cassava roll, which was longer than the 125-meter treat the city prepared last year during its founding anniversary.

Mayor Caesar Dy said the event aimed to demonstrate to consumers that it was safe to eat cassava, one of the major crops sustaining the livelihood of local farmers.

"We ate the cassava roll to prove to everyone that this is a delicious food—it is not fatal—that satiates and sustains the livelihood of Cauayan farmers," Dy said in Filipino.

Last month, 27 schoolchildren in Mabini town in Bohol died while at least 50 others were hospitalized after eating a cassava snack contaminated with pesticide.

The cassava roll is one of the city's famous delicacies being sold in market stalls and bakeries.

At least 7,500 hectares of land are planted to cassava in Isabela, records showed.

The cassava rolls—wrapped in plastic—were laid on bamboo racks which lined the road from District 1 to Turayong villages. But the product was so long that organizers soon ran out of bamboo racks and laid it on newspapers spread on the road.

"We did not anticipate the huge number of participants from different barangays who wanted to display their cassava rolls. We promise to make a better presentation next year," said Yolanda Alvendia, Iglo-Cauayan president.

Organizers said they used at least 400 kilograms of cassava, 80 kg of ground peanuts, 240 kg of sugar, 400 kg of grated coconut and 400 kg of cheese in producing the longest cassava roll.

VILLAMOR VISAYA JR./PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

MEMBERS of the Isabela Green Ladies Organization prepare the kilometer-long cassava roll spread on newspapers on the road.

Trauma of pesticide poisoning lingers

By Cynthia D. Balana

A MONTH after 27 children died of pesticide poisoning in their school, students of the Mabini Elementary School in Mabini town in Bohol have yet to pick up the pieces of their lives despite regular stress debriefings by social workers.

Eight students were prescribed anti-depressant drugs and would be referred to a psychiatrist-on-duty or nongovernmental organizations with mental health programs, Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman said.

In a press conference on Friday, Soliman said the tragedy had traumatized the eight children.

"These were the ones who saw their classmates die one by one. We're going back to Bohol to see what can be done," she said.

Despite the grim scenario, Soliman said she was confident that the children would overcome the tragic experience.

On March 9, 27 children were killed and 50 others were hospitalized after eating caramelized cassava laced with pesticide which they bought from two vendors outside their school during recess.

Health authorities could not say if the poisoning was accidental. Police continued to gather evidence for the possible criminal prosecution of the vendors.

A Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) session was given to 184 people—81 children, 97 parents and six teachers. Soliman said the CISD was a psychosocial intervention given to primary and secondary victims of traumatic incidents to lessen the impact of trauma.

The victims started their sessions on March 22 and were conducted by 15 social workers from the DSWD and four staff members from the Department of Health.

The debriefing for children consisted of:

- Sharing of facts and feelings (draw-and-tell reenactment).
- Processing of shared facts and feelings.
- Contingency plans.

The DOH also administered a questionnaire to 88 parents to find out if they needed debriefing or referral to a psychiatrist.

Soliman said the municipal social welfare development office would continue to monitor the victims' conditions and closely coordinate with the DSWD and DOH field offices for assistance.

Pope's death unleashes religious fervor in sin city

From page A1

associated with unsavory images, such as blatant commercialism, crime, prostitution and couples lasciviously smooching at corners and piazzas.

In popular letters and culture, Rome, which has 630 Catholic churches, has been called the "sin city" and even "Sodom and Gomorrah."

There is no erasing some of the sinful images.

Commercialism still exists—shops have taken a beating from the public for jacking up the price of bottled water from half a euro to three euros to cash in on the papal event—and some couples still smooch shamelessly on the streets.

But it is noticeable that there has also been an unabashed show of religious devotion and affection for the late Pope and the Church he led.

Backpackers in church

At the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore over the weekend, European pilgrims, many of them young backpackers, filled the huge church, and attended the Mass that was presided over by one of the more than 100 cardinals who had come from all over the world to elect the next pope.

At Comandini S, a religious shop on Borgo Pio, pilgrims and tourists snapped up religious articles and souvenirs of John Paul II as if they were grabbing the glossiest posters of a rock or Hollywood star.

At Mel Bookstore, bookworms and the not so literate bought copies of the Pope's books, such as his latest, "Memory and Identity."

The papal books are now the best sellers in Italy.

Pieces of history

In newsstands, people were snapping up the Friday and Saturday issues of L'Ossevatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper, as souvenirs and a little piece of history to take home.

When an American asked if there was an English edition, the irritated Italian saleslady screamed, "No English, only Italian!"

And at St. Peter's Basilica, the center of world Christendom, pilgrims formed long lines to get in. Inside, all of the pews were occupied.

The audience sat solemn and attentive before the spectacle of several cardinals and bishops saying the 5 o'clock Mass on Saturday.

Many murmured the decades of the rosary while listening to the homily.

Although pilgrims have always filled the churches of Rome, they are basically museum-goers rather than churchgoers.

Just a 'beautiful myth'

Although the Vatican has been quick to capitalize on the cultural tourism potentials of its churches, many clerics have also complained that some people, particularly Europeans, tend to look at the Church as nothing more than an institution with beautiful rituals and sacred art.

"The appreciation is more cultural and artistic, rather than spiritual and moral," Barni said. The Church is looked upon as "outdated" and just "a beautiful myth," he added.

But the Pope's death has deepened the appreciation for the relevance of the faith, the monsignor said.

Pilgrims said they were struck by the religious symbolism of last Friday's funeral as well as by the exemplary life of the Pope.

"I cried when the Pope died because he welcomed suffering and death with humility," said Pietr Mosch, a Dutch.

Papal wish granted

The Pope himself had always lamented that Italian and other European Catholics seemed to take their faith for granted.

Visiting Archbishop Fernando Capalla, the president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, alluded to this when he said that the Pope had wanted migrant Filipino workers to be a missionary force and "be involved in local churches" in the countries where they worked because "there are only a few churchgoers [in Europe]."

In life, the Pontiff might not have seen churches in the so-called Old World teeming with people, but in his death, he had gotten his wish: churches were full again and Europeans, who used to be too modern and secular for the Church's taste, appeared to have renewed the faith of their fathers.

The only question is how long will all that last.

Fulfilling the Roman vocation

As the pilgrims started to leave, the world's smallest state—covering just 44 hectares—has also begun slowly shrinking back to its normal tiny size.

Some 800,000 train travelers have arrived and departed from Rome since the Pope's death, rail authorities said.

On Saturday, for the first time in a week, Giuseppe Foti stepped outside his home a stone's throw from the Vatican, and did not have to worry about tripping over a pilgrim.

"In these past days I was stuck inside, I couldn't go in or out, and I live here," said Foti, 80.

Rome ballooned to nearly 6 million people from all over the world during the last week. Nearly 1.4 million people filed through St. Peter's Basilica for a glimpse of the Pope's body.

"Rome is an open city," Rome Mayor Walter Veltroni said. "It's a city open to tolerance, culture, and welcome, and has again confirmed this vocation this time." *With reports from AFP and The New York Times News Service*

Pope immortalized . . .

From page A1

Pope kneeling on a prie-dieu, or kneeling desk.

Dzwigaj finished the monument four years ago but Krakow city authorities decided at the time not to place it in the cemetery.

On his visits as pope to his native Poland, John Paul II often prayed at the family grave at Rakowicki cemetery, where his parents and elder brother Edmund are buried.

Memorable words

Other monuments to the Pope are to be erected in several cities and towns around Poland, including Wadowice in the south, where the Pope was born Karol Wojtyla on May 18, 1920, and at Pilsudski Square in the capital, Warsaw.

Pilsudski Square was one of the high holy places in John Paul II's pontificate, as it was there that on June 10, 1979, he uttered the memorable phrase: "May the spirit come down and renew the face of this land."

Those words were interpreted by many Poles as an exhortation to stand up to the communist regime and allow a new Poland to be born.

In Italy, Rome Mayor Walter Veltroni announced the city's main railway station would be renamed after the Pope. A university square will also bear his name.

Veltroni said that once a new pope was named, the city would consult with the Vatican on how to give the station a look that "strongly recalls the message of a pope who was the pontiff of awareness, dialogue and travel."

The station is currently called Termini, which means terminus.

Veltroni also said that a square at Tor Vergata, site of a university southeast of Rome, would be named after John Paul II.

'Vacant seat' stamp

Veltroni recalled that some 2 million young people attended Jubilee 2000 celebrations there.

Sales of John Paul thimbles, posters and key-rings have soared since his death a week ago, but the hottest item for collectors may be a Vatican stamp.

The Vatican plans to launch a special "vacant seat" series of stamps on Tuesday for the interregnum period between the late Pope's death on April 2 and his successor's ascension to the throne of St. Peter.

Sold at the tiny city-state's post office and tourist shops around St. Peter's Square, the stamps will be valid until a new pope is elected, which could be only days after the conclave of cardinals, which will elect the new pope, starts on April 18.

Summer games in Makati

Collectors have been snapping up memorabilia of the Pontiff.

The Vatican newspaper Osservatore Romano even reissued its special edition on the Pope's death to counter profiteers.

The April 3 issue with a retail price of 0.90 euro ($1.15) is being offered on auction website eBay (www.ebay.it) for up to 45.50 euros.

The multifaith, summer-long "goodwill games" in the Philippines will be held later this month on the basketball and volleyball courts of the San Carlos Seminary in Guadalupe, Makati.

"The Pope's message is clear: different religions should learn to dialogue and find common ground," Taha Basman, president of the Center for Moderate Muslims, told the INQUIRER.

The Catholic Church, led Fr. Carlos Reyes, will send a team of priests and seminarians.

The team will also include Fr. Leonardo Mercado, executive secretary of the Episcopal Commission for Inter-religious Dialogue, and Tondo parish priest Fr. Ben Beltran. Bishop Deogracias Iniguez of Caloocan City will watch from the sidelines.

Ulama will play

Basman will be joined by fellow "*ulama*" (religious scholars) and "*ustadzes*" (professors), while Bishop Efraim Tendero will be accompanied by pastors from the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches.

There will also be a team of ministers from the Protestant Church and Orthodox Christians headed by Father Kleofas.

Those who don't like contact sports can settle for board games, like chess and scrabble, Basman said.

Organizers are putting up trophies and cash prizes for the winners if only to give the affair a competitive spirit. Basman said the money would go to charity.

He said he and his peers were moved by the Pontiff's desire to promote harmony among various faiths that they felt the urgency to follow his lead.

"He was really very special to us," said Basman. *Reports from Christian V. Esguerra, AFP and Reuters*

WOW!™ MAGIC SING PREMIUM Videoke Anytime, Anywhere! WOW talaga!

NEW FREEBIE! Video Extension Cable
Connect your TV & Sound Systrem to your WOW! Magic Sing Premium HASSLE-FREE!

Sing through the Philippines!

WOW EXCLUSIVE FREEBIES! 55 built-in WOW PHILIPPINES Picture Backgrounds · Full-color Picture Guide · BIYAHE Tayo! VCD · BIYAHE Tayo! BONUS SONG! · ALL ORIGINAL! All Imported From Korea!

Made in Korea by: ET ENTERTECH Co. Ltd.

The No.1 Videoke Microphone

WOW 2005 EDITION
- Connects directly to TV
- Contains Built-in songs
- Best Sound & Picture Quality
- Fully upgradeable!
- 1 Year Warranty & Lifetime Service
- *ALL ORIGINAL & ALL IMPORTED FROM KOREA*

NEW FEATURES
- Real Time Scoring
- Amateur, Pro or Statr Singer Scoring Levels
- Song Section Repeat
- Voice Change Style (Male or Female)
- Adjustable Lyric Display
- First Lyric Line Display-on-Browse

Tourism Partners: I ♥ PHILIPPINES · BIYAHE Tayo!

Available Nationwide at: AstroVision · ABENSON · odyssey MUSIC & VIDEO · Automatic CENTRE · Avid BRANDS! · TOWER RECORDS · PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB, INC. · ASTROPLUS · WESTERN · MUSIC VIDEO · Home & Office Center · TIONGSAN HARRISON · ABENSON · GOLDEN SOUND · The Listening Room · WELCOME · Work Station · SANTECH · SOLID ELECTRONICS · OHM'S TRADER · Hirosé · AMPLE APPLIANCE CENTER · M J S APPLIANCE CENTER · W & M Marketing · PRO SOUND · ASSURANCE Merchandising · WORLDWIDE · filgifts.com · BETHEL · ZOE ELECTRONICS · HARDWARE EXCHANGE · Nintendo · Willy and Sons Corporation · CSI · BHF · GUANZON · SOLAR SALES CENTER · JET RONIX · EVER APPLIANCE CENTER, INC. · People's MARKETING · ECHO · ASIAN HOME · ECO-TECH · Cebu Appliance Center · CENTRUM · RJ HOMES · Victoria · QUALITY APPLIANCE PLAZA INC · SPECIAL APPLIANCE PLAZA INC. · RAINBOW APPLIANCE PLAZA INC. · Better Homes · B C S · GOLDEN BELL · BETTER LIVING · MUSICVISION · Mindanao Solidmark, Inc.

©Philippine Copyright 2005 by In A Jiffy Enterprises

in-a-jiffy · G2K Corporation · Tel Nos.: 722 5527 / 405 0178

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Cops pat selves on back over security at IPU meet

By Lüige A. del Puerto

THEY didn't bungle the job this time.

Police heaved a sigh a relief after the Inter-Parliamentary Union general assembly ended last week with no major untoward incidents reported.

Cops guarded some 1,500 foreign lawmakers during the weeklong conference held at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City.

Except for a few minor embarrassments, including the mugging of a Belgian delegate and the shortchanging of the wife of a Kenyan participant, no major incident disrupted the confab.

A top police official said yesterday that the police have now emerged better at securing foreign leaders with the peaceful conclusion of the IPU conference.

"We're learning a lot from these conventions, and we are getting better at it," said Deputy Director General Reynaldo Velasco, who was in charge of security for the foreign delegates last week.

"There was the Bush visit (in October 2003) and now the IPU," Velasco noted. "We'll use some of what we have learned here to plug leaks next time," he said.

The country is expected to host the Southeast Asian Games at the end of the year.

One of those lessons would include securing inner roads, not just the major thoroughfares.

Georges Brion, secretary general of the Belgian parliament, was robbed of P4,000, $60 and credit cards on one such "inner road" or side street in Pasay City on Tuesday.

The assailant, Victorio Mallari, was arrested within 24 hours and convicted of robbery.

Velasco said Task Force Parliament, which he heads, had not been dissolved as of press time.

"There are still guests in tourist spots in the country and our sub-groups are still watching them," he said.

Police spokesperson Sr. Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil said half of the IPU delegates had decided to stay to enjoy the country's beaches and other tourist spots.

Most would have gone home by today, he said.

Velasco said what was important was the delegates would go home with a lot of good things to say about the Philippines.

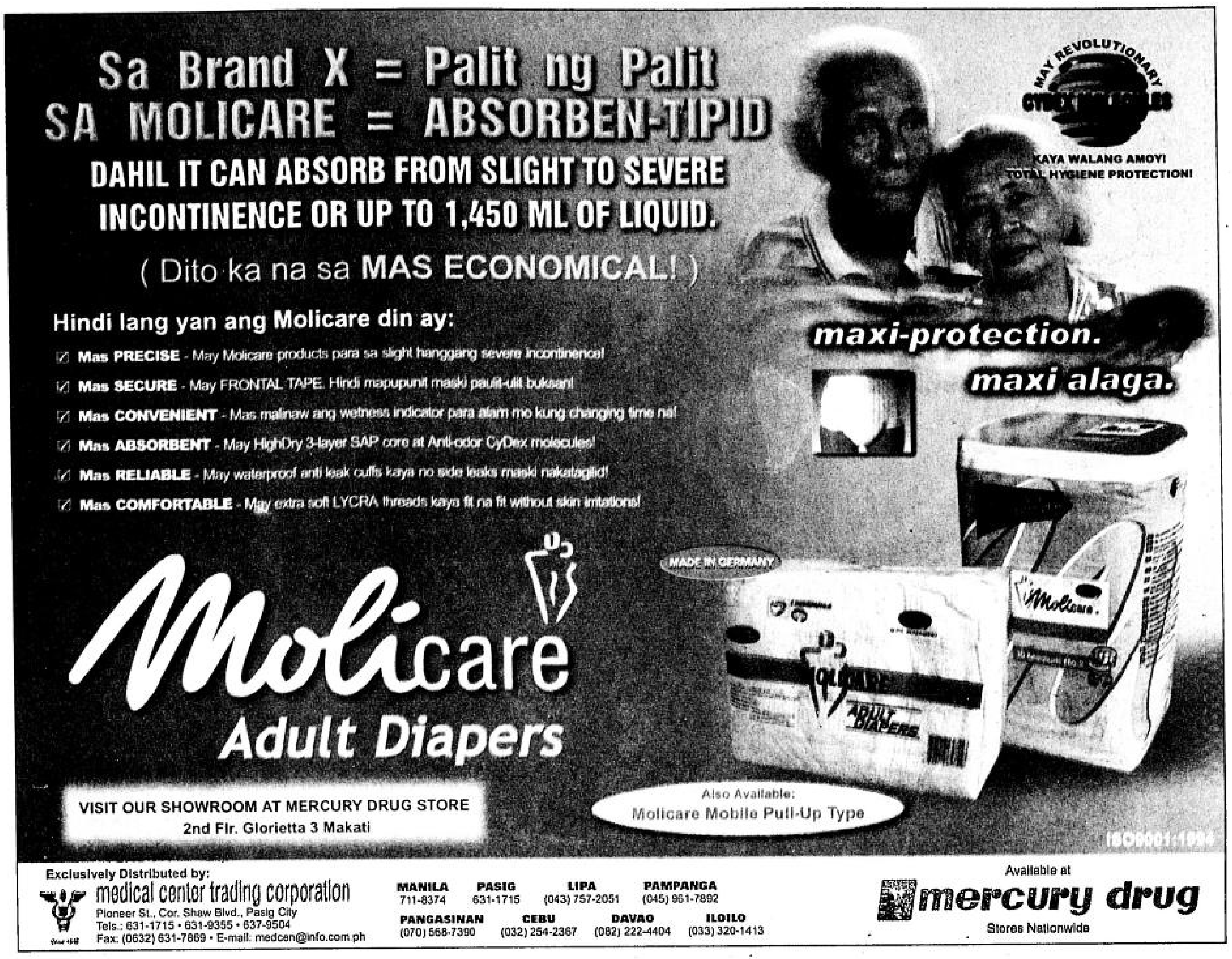
"You know there were several travel advisories against us," he said. "But we have shown that our streets are safer than the streets of New York."

The police fielded some 13,000 to 15,000 cops for the convention, which took place barely a month after terrorists blew up a bus in Makati City, killing three persons and wounding scores of passengers and bystanders.

The Abu Sayyaf group, which claimed responsibility for the bomb attack, said it was planning more attacks in retaliation for the death of three of its top leaders in Taguig City on March 15.

Although the group did not mention the IPU gathering as a target, intelligence officials did not discount the possibility that an attack could occur.

Hence, police officials described the security at the IPU as "extra-tight."


Sa Brand X = Palit ng Palit
SA MOLICARE = ABSORBEN-TIPID
DAHIL IT CAN ABSORB FROM SLIGHT TO SEVERE INCONTINENCE OR UP TO 1,450 ML OF LIQUID.
(Dito ka na sa MAS ECONOMICAL!)

Hindi lang yan ang Molicare din ay:

☑ **Mas PRECISE** - May Molicare products para sa slight hanggang severe incontinence!
☑ **Mas SECURE** - May FRONTAL TAPE. Hindi mapupunit maski pauli-ulit buksan!
☑ **Mas CONVENIENT** - Mas malinaw ang wetness indicator para alam mo kung changing time na!
☑ **Mas ABSORBENT** - May HighDry 3-layer SAP core at Anti-odor CyDex molecules!
☑ **Mas RELIABLE** - May waterproof anti leak cuffs kaya no side leaks maski nakatagilid!
☑ **Mas COMFORTABLE** - May extra soft LYCRA threads kaya fit na fit without skin irritations!

MAY REVOLUTIONARY CYDEX MOLECULES
KAYA WALANG AMOY!
TOTAL HYGIENE PROTECTION!

maxi-protection.
maxi alaga.

MADE IN GERMANY

Molicare
Adult Diapers

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE
2nd Flr. Glorietta 3 Makati

Also Available:
Molicare Mobile Pull-Up Type

ISO9001:1994

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels.: 631-1715 • 631-9355 • 637-9504
Fax: (0632) 631-7869 • E-mail: medcen@info.com.ph

MANILA 711-8374
PASIG 631-1715
LIPA (043) 757-2051
PAMPANGA (045) 961-7892
PANGASINAN (070) 568-7390
CEBU (032) 254-2367
DAVAO (082) 222-4404
ILOILO (033) 320-1413

Available at
mercury drug
Stores Nationwide

COURAGE
Fortitude
FORTITUDE
DILIGENCE
IN THE PURSUIT OF GOOD, A PERSON MUST HAVE THE MORAL STRENGTH AND COURAGE TO MEET DIFFICULTIES.

THIS IS THE VIRTUE OF FORTITUDE – JUST ONE OF THE MANY YOU WILL LEARN AT CENTRO ESCOLAR UNIVERSITY.

WE BELIEVE IN INSTILLING VIRTUES IN EVERYTHING WE TEACH. FOR US, REAL LEARNING GOES BEYOND ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE. IT MOLDS THE YOUTH TO BECOME MODEL CITIZENS AND IT MAKES ORDINARY STUDENTS FIND THE EXTRAORDINARY WITHIN THEMSELVES.

VIRTUES – WE'RE COMMITTED TO TEACH THEM. AND OUR STUDENTS ARE PROUD TO WEAR THEM.

CENTRO ESCOLAR UNIVERSITY
CIENCIA Y VIRTUD
1907

Centro Escolar University is ISO 9001-2000 certified in both campuses • Granted Full Autonomy by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) • All programs are accredited Levels III and II by the Federation of Accrediting Agencies of the Philippines (FAAP)

WE DON'T JUST BUILD CAREERS.
WE BUILD CHARACTER.

Manila Campus: Telephone – 735-6861 to 71 loc. 215; Telefax -735-6860; Cellphone - 0917-822-8394; E-mail - ceuadmission@ceu.edu.ph • Malolos Campus: Telephone - (044) 662-8439 / 662-4779; Telefax - (044) 791-6359; E-mail - jmalvaro@ceu.edu.ph

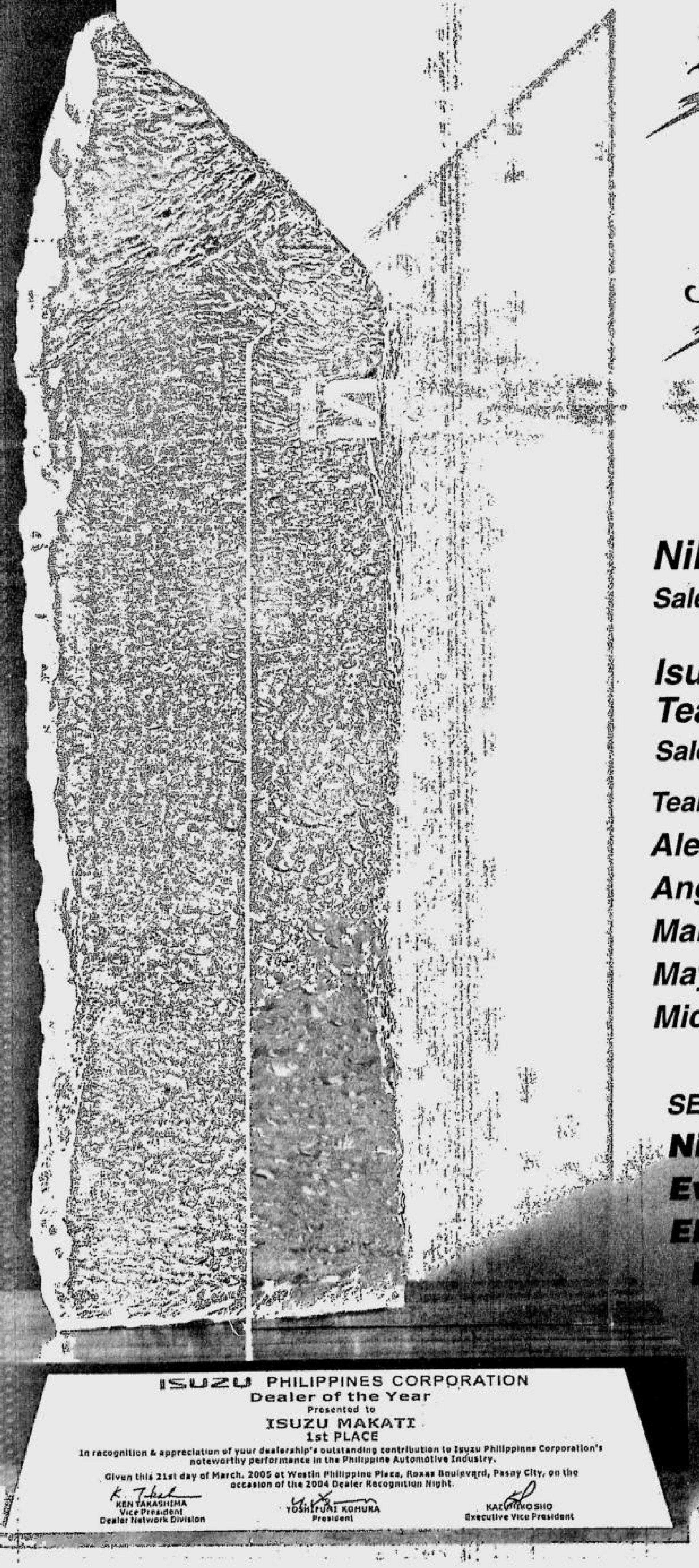
CEU OPENS MAKATI CAMPUS AT 259 SEN. GIL PUYAT AVENUE (FORMERLY BUENDIA) IN JUNE 2005.
FOR INQUIRIES, CALL 735-6860 OR 735-6861 LOC. 215.

At the Peak of Performance

Congratulations to Isuzu's 2004 Dealer of the Year Awardees!

2004 Dealer of the Year

ISUZU Makati
Gencars, Inc.



ISUZU PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Dealer of the Year
Presented to
ISUZU MAKATI
1st PLACE
In recognition & appreciation of your dealership's outstanding contribution to Isuzu Philippines Corporation's noteworthy performance in the Philippine Automotive Industry.
Given this 21st day of March, 2005 at Westin Philippine Plaza, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, on the occasion of the 2004 Dealer Recognition Night.

K. Takash
KEN TAKASHIMA
Vice President
Dealer Network Division

YOSHIFUMI KOMURA
President

KAZUHIKO SHO
Executive Vice President

2nd **Place:**

ISUZU PASIG
Isuzu Automotive Dealership, Inc.

3rd **Place:**

ISUZU ALABANG
Isuzu Automotive Dealership, Inc.

Nilo Abalos - Isuzu Mandaue / Cebu
Sales Executive of the Year

Isuzu Pasig SE Team # 1
Team Leader: Roy Coronel
Sales Executive Team of the Year Winner

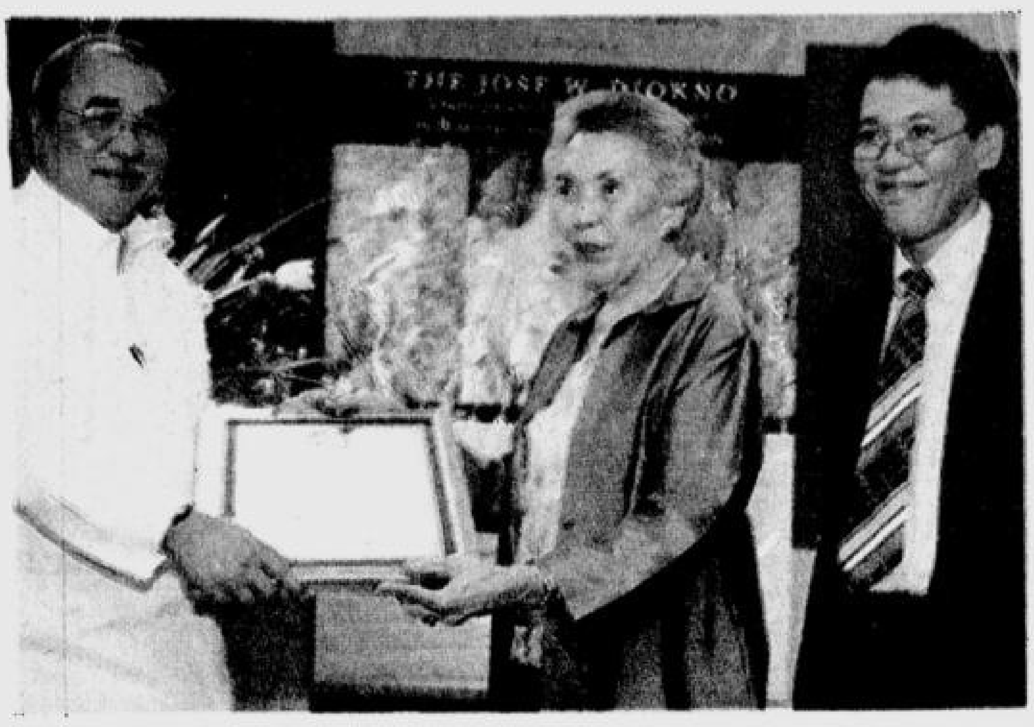
Team Members:

Alexander Hernandez	*Eric Wambangco*
Angelito Viloria	*James Sy*
Mara Holgado	*Naomi Burdeos*
Mayet Fajardo	*Sheryl London*
Michelle Pendon	*Gets Lacap*

SE Topsellers:

Nilo Abalos (Isuzu Mandaue / Cebu)
Evelyn Maulingan (Isuzu Davao)
Elenita Go (Isuzu Makati)
Rolando Carorasan (Isuzu Manila)

ISUZU
Your responsible partner
www.isuzuphil.com



CARMEN I. Diokno receives the plaque establishing the Jose W. Diokno Professorial Chair from Bro. Rafael Donato FSC, chair of the De La Salle-Professional Schools Inc. Graduate School of Business, in honor of her late husband. Looking on at right is lawyer Jose Manuel I. Diokno, son of the late senator.

Diokno chair, award set up

"JOSE W. Diokno is the father of human rights advocacy, and he belongs to the greatest Filipinos who ever lived because of his staunch activism and relentless opposition against human rights abuses committed during the Marcos regime."

With these words, Sen. Joker P. Arroyo paid tribute to the late senator during the formal establishment of the Jose W. Diokno Distinguished Professorial Chair in Business Law and Human Rights held at the De La Salle-Professional Schools Inc. Graduate School of Business RCBC Campus in Makati City recently.

Ka Pepe, as he was popularly known, earned his bachelor's degree in commerce, summa cum laude, at De La Salle in 1940 and topped the CPA board exam the same year. In 1944, without completing his bachelor of laws degree, he took and topped the bar exam with a rating of 95.3 percent.

Immediately after passing the bar, Ka Pepe embarked on his law practice, handling controversial cases that brought him to public prominence. In 1961, President Diosdado Macapagal appointed him secretary of justice.

In November 1963, Ka Pepe ran for senator and won. As chair of the Senate economic affairs committee, he worked for the passage of pro-Filipino legislation, such as the Industrial Incentives Law which provides incentives to Filipino investors and entrepreneurs in order to place control of the Philippine economy in Filipino hands.

But Ka Pepe is best remembered as a street parliamentarian during martial law. He fought the Marcos dictatorship with a dignified and eloquent courage. In 1974, he organized the Free Legal Assistance Group, which gave free legal services to martial law victims.

The event coincided with the conferment of the first Ka Pepe Diokno Award as a Champion of Human Rights on the late Judge Voltaire Y. Rosales. The slain magistrate was an incorruptible Batangas judge who upheld the honor and dignity of the law.

Rosales was also a product of La Salle, from which he graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science. He went on to the Ateneo College of Law as a consistent scholar, graduating among the top of his class.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, April 11, 2005
3rd Week of Easter

1st Reading:	Acts 6:8-15
Gospel:	John 6:22-29

After Jesus has fed the five thousand, his disciples saw him walking on the water. Next day the people who had stayed on the other side realized that only one boat had been there and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples; rather, the disciples had gone away alone. Bigger boats from Tiberias came near the place where all these people had eaten the bread. When they saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Master, when did you come here?"

Jesus answered, "Truly, I say to you, you look for me, not because you have seen through the signs, but because you ate bread and were satisfied. Work then, not for perishable food, but for the lasting food which gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give it to you, for he is the one the Father has marked."

Then the Jews asked him, "What shall we do? What are the works that God wants us to do?" And Jesus answered them, "The work God wants is this: that you believe in the One whom God has sent."

Commentary

Jesus fed the people and now they come looking for him again. Sadly not because they have come to believe in him, but because they were fed. Jesus exhorts them to work for lasting food that brings eternal life and that he himself, the Son of Man, will give it to them. And the only work God wants us to do is to believe in the One whom God has sent. People see and yet they do not see. In Acts Stephen walks in the ways of Jesus the Lord, preaching with wisdom but they do not see and are stirred against him. Do we see? Do we see who does the work of believing in the Son of Man? Do we see those who feed the poor, and care for the widows, who speaks the truth in the face of adversity and threat? Do we see who stands with those who are treated unjustly? What food are we working for today?

THERE'S HOPE FOR DIABETICS.
COGENT DB+

The threat of gangrene and amputation is a serious danger that diabetics face everyday. Now, they can rest easier as Cogent db+, with its nine *Ayurvedic* medicinal plants, effectively addresses such complications while helping to provide the following benefits:

- Strengthens the body to withstand Diabetes-associated infections
- Lowers elevated blood glucose, triglycerides, and cholesterol levels
- Helps to reverse cell death and hyperglycemia-related tissue damage
- Prevents and fights the harmful effects of free radicals
- Checks the blockage of blood vessels
- Sustains energy and promotes general well-being
- Helps in healing Diabetes-induced impotence
- Repairs pancreatic cell damage and enhances tissue response to insulin
- Controls long-term complications like blindness, kidney disease, renal failure, and nerve damage

Recommended by most doctors.

For further information, please contact tel. nos.: 638-8573; 631-9863; and 638-8379
Email: cogent@davenben.com
Website: www.davenben.com

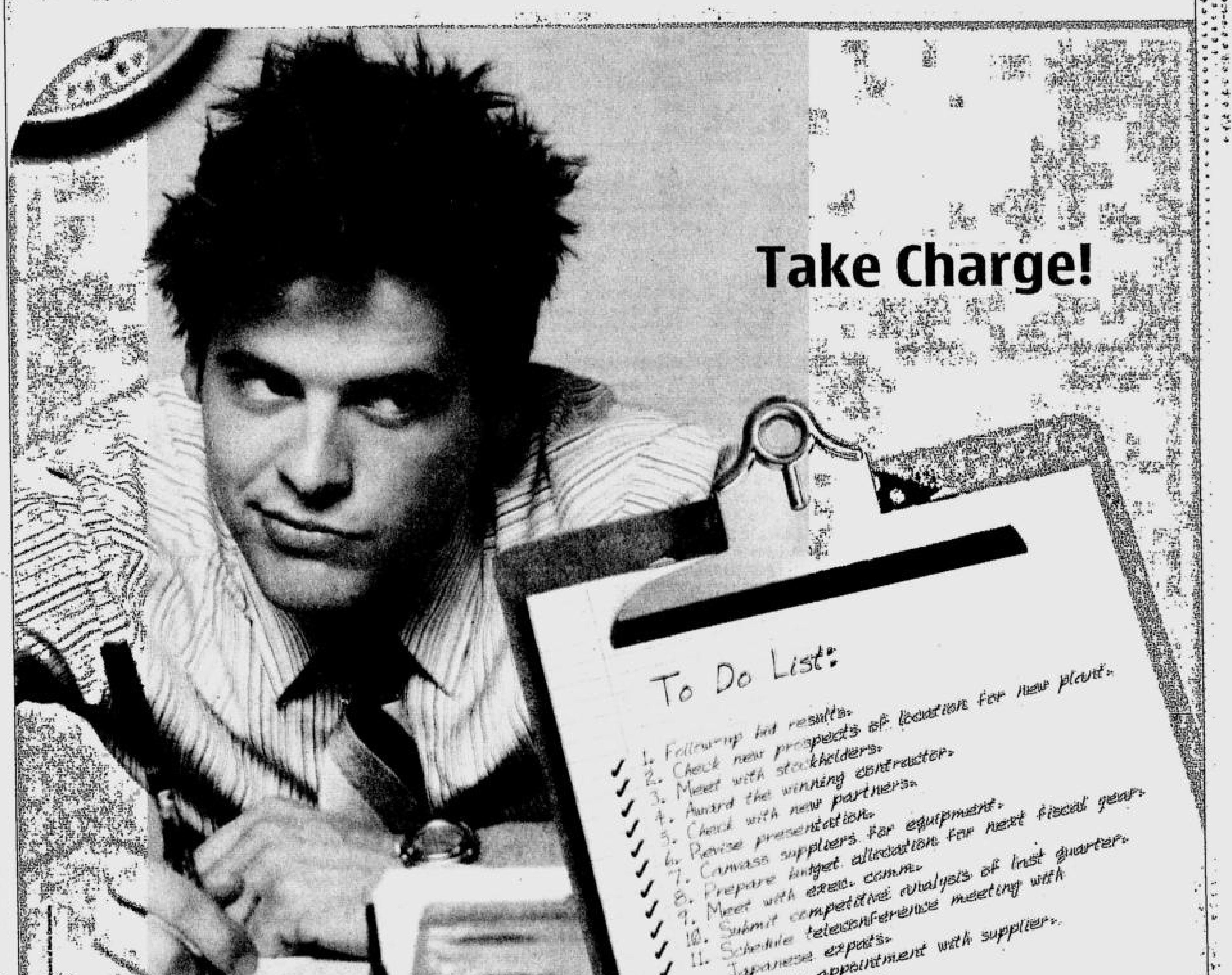
Available at mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide.

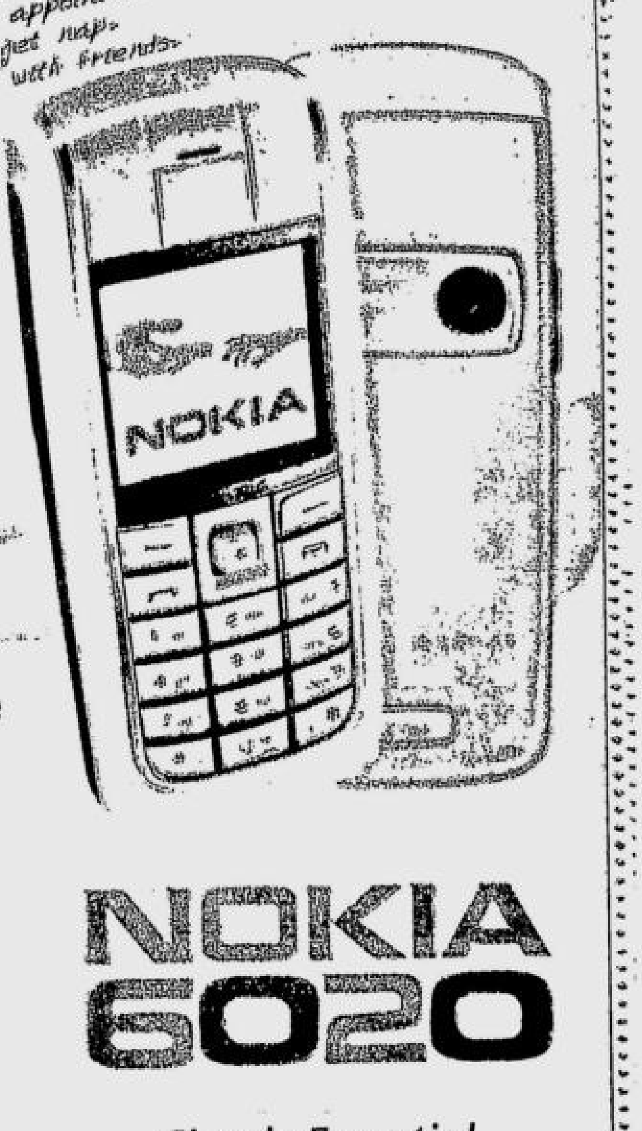
AN HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR DIABETIC CARE.

www.nokia.com.ph

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

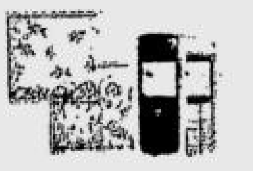
Take Charge!


To Do List:
1. Follow-up bid results.
2. Check new prospects of location for new plant.
3. Meet with stockholders.
4. Award the winning contractor.
5. Check with new partners.
6. Revise presentation.
7. Canvass suppliers for equipment.
8. Prepare budget allocation for next fiscal year.
9. Meet with exec. comm.
10. Submit competitive analysis of last quarter.
11. Schedule teleconference meeting with Japanese expats.
12. Confirm appointment with supplier.
13. Try to get nap.
14. Coffee with friends.



The new Nokia 6020 with all the essential tools to let you set the pace at surprising ease. Get your new Nokia 6020 now!

- Built-in Camera with Video Recorder and Player
- Data Synchronization
- GPRS and EDGE



Personalization
Themes, XpressOn™ Covers

Functionalities
Camera, Email, Data Synchronization

Ease of Use
Well lit, raised keys and Joystick for easier navigation

NOKIA 6020
Simply Essential

Available at the following Nokia Stores and Professional Centers:

Globotel
All Branches
Tel # 888-0104

Mobile Experts
All Branches
Tel # 812-8389

Memo Express
All Branches
Tel # 243-9461 to 64

Megacellular
3rd Level, Robinson's Manila
Tel # 837-1176

Megacellular
Ground Floor, Big R
Novaliches, Quezon City

Best Mobile
4th Level, Market! Market!,
Taguig City
Tel # 812-8389

Abenson
Shangri-la Plaza,
Mandaluyong City

Abenson
Quad Glorietta,
Makati City

Electroworld
Parksquare 1,
Makati City

Electroworld
Greenbelt 1,
Makati City

Hello
4th Level, Robinson's Galleria,
Mandaluyong City
Tel # 636-7598

Make sure your new Nokia Mobile Phone comes with original enhancements and is protected by a 12 month warranty on parts and services from Nokia Care. Buy only at authorized Nokia outlets. For inquiries, call the Nokia Careline at (02) 886-1234.

TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED IATA

PROMO TICKETS	
HONGKONG	$237
SINGAPORE	$255
BANGKOK	$200
TAIPEI	$240
JAPAN	$350
SYDNEY/PERTH	$485
BRISBANE	$490
AUKLAND	$610
LOS ANGELES	$790
NEWARK	$785
HONOLULU	$610
EUROPE	$772

DOMESTIC PACKAGE	
BOHOL PKG	P 5365
BORACAY PKG	P 6635
DAVAO PKG	P 6310
CEBU PKG	P 5265
PALAWAN PKG	P 5580
DAKAK PKG	P 7115

INT'L. PACKAGE	
3D2N HKG/SZN/CAN	$168
3D2N SHENZHEN	$168
MALAYSIA PKG	$325
BANGKOK PKG	$189
SINGAPORE PKG	$308
SIN+JOHORE+BATAM+BRUNEI	$366
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA	$361

(ALL PACKAGES EXCLUDING TAXES)
Other INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES are available. We also offer PASSPORTING/VISA ASSISTANCE & other documentation needs

1089, Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila
Tel.: 524-1405 / 524-0987 / 524-1477
0922-8044156 / 0919-5321555 JO/PAUL

BUDGET PACKAGES

PUERTO GALERA	P 3200	BORACAY	P 2675
PALAWAN	P 3834	BOHOL	P 3675
HONGKONG FREE & EASY	$ 285	EUROPE	$ 1859
BANGKOK	$ 188	SINGAPORE	$ 334
SAIGON	$ 329	KUALA LUMPUR	$ 165
3D2N SHENZHEN + HONGKONG CITY TOUR	$ 148	3D2N SHENZHEN FREE & EASY	$ 218

		PROMO TICKETS	
CANTON + HONGKONG + SHENZHEN	$ 138	HONGKONG	$ 235
1NITE HONGKONG + 1NITE SHENZHEN	$ 168	BANGKOK	$ 175
1NITE HONGKONG + 2NITE SHENZHEN	$ 198	SINGAPORE	$ 255
2NITE HONGKONG + 1NITE SHENZHEN	$ 198	AUSTRALIA	$ 515
5D/4N SHENZHEN + CANTON + MACAU DAY TOUR/FULLBOARD	$ 179	SFO/LAX	$ 765
4D/3N SHENZHEN W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD	$ 169	VANCOUVER	$ 765
4D/3N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI	$ 328	NEW JERSEY	$ 920
5D/4N SHENZHEN + BEIJING FULLBOARD	$ 329	NEW YORK	$ 975
6D/5N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI + BEIJING	$ 339	EUROPE	$ 720

FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT FARES AT VERY LOW PRICE!!!
VISA ASSISTANCE, PASSPORT PROCESSING, DOMESTIC TICKETS & LOCAL PACKAGES, CAR RENTALS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS & EDUCATIONAL TOURS

AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.
2nd Floor Unit C Davis Bldg., A. Mabini cor. Sta. Monica Sts., Ermita, Manila
Tels.: 400-3013 / 303-1410 Telefax: 522-0354
Cell No. 0917-3295594 E-mail: airtrvl@amadeusph.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

MEGA SAVER'S PACKAGE

4D/3N CAN/HKG/SHZ $148
AFFORDABLE BORACAY/BOHOL/PALAWAN PACKAGES
1N HKG/2N BKK/1N SHZ $298
1N HKG/2N BKK/2N SHZ $298
AFFORDABLE EUROPE TOUR $2,288

3D/2N HKG	$168	5D/4N SHZ+2N SHA	$298
1N HKG/1N SHZ	$148	6D/5N SHZ+BJE	$348
5D/4N HKG / SHZ	$188	8D/7N SHZ+SHA+BJE	$398
4D/3N HKG / SHZ	$178	SIN/JOHOURE/BATAM	$385
SINGAPORE	$322	BANGKOK	$214

PROMO TICKET FARE

LAX/SFO	$920	NEW YORK	$950
VANCOUVER	$870	GUAM	$381
EUROPE	$750	HONOLULU	$640

Seven Seas Travel and Tours
Unit 156 I CK SY DIAMOND BLDG., LIBERTAD, PASAY CITY
Tel. nos.: 833-1986 / 833-7173
e-mail: seas88@info.com.ph / seas882003@yahoo.com

PROMO PACKAGES

		SIN/MALAYSIA/INDONESIA	$368
CANTON/HKG/SHZN	$138	KUALA LUMPUR	$158
1N HKG+1N SHZ	$148	SIN+KUALA	$418
SHZN+WINDOWS OF THE WORLD	$168	SAIGON	$318
HONGKONG (FREE & EASY)	$285	KUALA LUMPUR+BANGKOK	$398
SHZN+SHANGHAI	$288	GUAM	$388
2N HKG+1N SHZN+OCEAN PARK	$305	BALI	$408
SHZN+BJS+SHANGHAI	$338	CAMBODIA+VIETNAM+SIN	$648
BANGKOK	$188	PHNOM PENH+CAMBODIA+BKK	$798
BANGKOK+PATTAYA	$258	SEOUL	$698
BANGKOK+HONGKONG	$278	AUSTRALIA	$628
BANGKOK+SINGAPORE	$378	NEW ZEALAND	$1208
SINGAPORE	$308	EUROPE	$1880

BUDGET FARES

		TORONTO	$918
LOS ANGELES/SFO	$768	SYD/BNE/MEL/ADL	$518
HONOLULU	$578	LONDON/PAR/AMS	$718
NEWARK	$928	BANGKOK	$200
JFK/CHICAGO/FLORIDA	$928	SINGAPORE	$255
VANCOUVER	$768	HONGKONG	$233

LOCAL TOURS

		DAVAO	P6315
		BACOLOD	P5306
CORREGIDOR ISLAND	P1375	PALAWAN	P5680
CEBU	P4380	BANAUE+SAGADA	P4330
BORACAY	P6735	PUERTO GALERA	P3088
BOHOL	P5365	LAOAG	P5260

DOLJUNTS International Travel & Tours
Suite 1032, Cityland Mega Plaza, Tower, ADB Avenue cor. Garnet Road Ortigas Commercial Center, Pasig City.
Tel Nos: 687-2808, 687-2984, 687-2818, 687-2739, 914-0398 to 99
Fax No.: 687-2808 Cell: 0920-7893648, 0919-6826025
E-mail: doljunts_travel @yahoo.com

SKYNET TRAVEL CORPORATION IATA PTAA

G/F & 2/F TSE and Sons Bldg. 1743 A. Mabini St. Malate
Tel Nos. 521-8992 • 521-7406 • 400-0509 • 400-0510
521-8608 • 521-7806 • 522-1360 • 525-4725 • 528-8682
Fax No.: 526-6364 • Mobile No.: (0921) 445-1776
Email: skynettravel@amadeusph.com

We are open on Sundays from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
WE ALSO OFFER OTHER INT. DESTINATIONS, LCL TOUR/VISA, PASSPORT, DOCUMENTATION & VISA ASSISTANCE

BOOKING OFFICES: Calma 294-2057 • Abra (074) 752-0733 • Bacolod (034) 435-0760 • Cavite (046) 417-2767 Cebu (032) 254-0181 • Davao (082) 226-3871 • Dipolog (065) 212-5030 • Iloilo (033) 335-1171 loc. 888 / 508-9494 • Leyte (053) 321-2661 • Ozamis City (088) 521-1535 • San Fernando, La Union (072) 888-8034

KOTAKINABALU 3D/2N VIA AIR ASIA	KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N VIA AIR ASIA	SINGAPORE VIA JETSTAR ASIA 3D/2N	KUALA LUMPUR + GENTING HIGHLANDS 4D/3N VIA AIR ASIA	CANTON FAIR 4D/3N
from $149	from $153	from $185	from $215	$335

SHZN+CANTON+MACAU 5D/4N	$139	SINGAPORE 3D/2N	$308
1N HKG+2N SHZN 4D/3N	$169	SAIGON 3D/2N	$318
3N SHZN W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD 4D/3N	$169	SIN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$325
1N HKG+1N SHZN 3D/2N	$179	KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N	$325
BANGKOK 3D/2N	$188	SHZN+BEIJING 5D/4N	$329
BANGKOK+PATTAYA 4D/3N	$249	GUAM 3D/2N	$343
HKG COMPULSORY TOUR 3D/2N	$249	SAIPAN 3D/2N	$345
2N HKG+1N SHZN 4D/3N	$259	KUL+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$348
BRUNEI 3D/2N	$275	SGN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$369
BANGKOK+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$278	TAIPEI CITY PACKAGE 3D/2N	$385
HKG FREE AND EASY 3D/2N	$285	SHZN+XIAN+SHA	$399
SHZN+SHANGHAI 4D/3N	$289	BKK+SIN+HKG +SHZN 7D/6N	$439
3N BKK+1N BRUNEI	$295	SYDNEY	$679
SHZN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI 6D/5N	$299	AUCKLAND	$919
HKG+SHZN W/ OCEAN PARK 4D/3N	$305	EUROPE TOUR	$1859

HONG KONG CHINA & BANGKOK

Limited Seats only!!!

3D2N HONG KONG + SHENZHEN	$ 148
3D2N HONG KONG	$ 168
4D3N HONG KONG + SHENZHEN	$ 178
5D4N PEARL RIVER DELTA	$ 218
6D5N HONG KONG + BANGKOK	$ 298
5D4N SHENZHEN + GUILIN	$ 258
5D4N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI	$ 298
6D5N SHENZHEN + BEIJING	$ 348
8D7N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI + BEIJING	$ 398

ALSO AVAILABLE HONG KONG DISNEYLAND PACKAGES

Call your Travel Agent Now!!!
Sunbright Tours 5234816 / 5236617
5244246 / 5240839 / 5240898
Sinai 4005560 / 5240686
Summit 6368118 to 19 / 6368125

WE **SELL RENT** Exhibit & Promo Systems

"Top of the line" kit

MADE IN SWEDEN

TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC
4187-1B Negros St., cor. Arellano Palanan Makati City
Tels: 552-9119 / Tel/Fax: 552-7743

---

traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations

HOLYLAND, JORDAN & EGYPT - MAY 9 - US$ 1,598
Highlights: AMMAN - PETRA - MT. TABOR - CANA - NAZARETH - MT. CARMEL - GALILEE - TIBERIAS - QUMRAN - DEAD SEA - JERUSALEM - MT. SINAI - CAIRO

US WEST COAST TOUR - 8 Days - $1,600 - 11 Days - $1,850
Highlights: LOS ANGELES - UNIVERSAL STUDIOS - DISNEYLAND - SAN DIEGO SEA WORLD - TIJUANA - LAKE HAVASU - GRAND CANYON - HOOVER DAM - LAS VEGAS - BARSTOW - HEARST CASTLE - FRESNO - YOSEMITE PARK - SAN FRANCISCO

FLY AND CRUISE

11 N	EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN	$2,395
12 N	SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA	$2,485

4D	SYDNEY	$689
6D	SYDNEY & GOLDCOAST	$988
4D	AUCKLAND	$929
2N	GUAM	$334

PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC. Unit 218 City & Land Mega Plaza (2nd flr. Parking Level) ADB Ave. cor. Garnet St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels.: 688-8846 • 688-8658 • 687-2694 Fax: 688-8846 E-mail: pirkkotroy@yahoo.com

---

ARK TRAVEL EXPRESS, INC.

UNIQUELY Singapore For as low as 3D/2N $237

SHENZHEN/BEIJING For as low as 6D/5N $348

SHENZHEN/SHANGHAI For as low as 5D/4N $298

AIRFARE ONLY

FOR AS LOW AS:	
SINGAPORE	$252
KUALA LUMPUR	$275
HONGKONG	$247
BANGKOK	$220
SFO / LAX	$945
YVR	$900
BEIJING	$385
SHANGHAI	$385
JFK	$1,020
EWR	$1,000

HKG/SHENZHEN For as low as 3D/2N $168

BANGKOK For as low as 4D/3N $245

KUALA LUMPUR For as low as 4D/3N $166

Local tours in Boracay, Cebu, Bohol & Palawan available upon request

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED.

Unit LG, 3&4 Alfaro Place, 146 Alfaro St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 893-7306 • 893-4979 • 893-7279 892-2259 • 816-1999 • 819-3291
e-mail: ark_travel@pacific.net.ph
IATA

KENSTAR *TRAVEL CORPORATION*

INTERNATIONAL Full Package

KUALA LUMPUR (2N)	from $398	SAIGON (2N)	from $485
SINGAPORE (2N)	from $318	BALI (2N)	from $408
HONG KONG (2N)	from $336	BANGKOK (2N)	from $291
AUSTRALIA (3N)	from $678		

SYDNEY and GOLD COAST 8 Days	DEPARTURE: Apr / May	$998
HOLY LAND 12 Days	DEPARTURE: May 9	$1598
RUSSIA 10 Days	DEPARTURE: May / Jun	$2168
SPAIN and PORTUGAL 17 Days	DEPARTURE: May / Jun	$3138

INTERNATIONAL Hotel Only

NEW ZEALAND (4D)	$744
MEXICO (6N)	$385
CANADA (7N)	$1060
EAST COAST (5N)	$690
WEST COAST(6N)	$446

DOMESTIC PACKAGES Full Package

BORACAY (2N)	P6635
PUERTO PRINCESA (2N)	P5580
BOHOL (2N)	P5265
BANAUE / SAGADA (2N)	P4280

DOMESTIC PACKAGES Hotel Only

PALAWAN (2N)	P3950
BORACAY (2N)	P7999

INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC AIRFARES
Passport / Visa and Immigration assistance

Unit 2 Mezzanine Flr. Casa Catalina Bldg. 635 Gen. Malvar St. Malate Manila
E-MAIL: reservation@kenstar.com.ph
TEL: (632) 524-1211 to 16
FAX: (632) 521-9049
CELL: 0917-852-7176, 0917-852-7292, 0917-852-7170

Travel SAFE, Travel SURE, Travel with US...

FREE TRAVEL INSURANCE AND VISA PROCESSING!!!

$699 5Days/4Nights

SEE SHOOTING PLACES OF "FULL HOUSE AND STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN"

DEP. DATE: APRIL 25 - 29, APRIL 26 - 30 — NAMI- ISLAND/SEOUL/MT SORAK/ LOTTE WORLD/EVERLAND/ "FULL HOUSE" SHOOTING PLACES

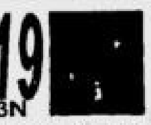
DEP. DATE: MAY 23 - 29 — SEOUL/GYONGJU/PUSAN EVERLAND/LOTTE WORLD/ JEJU "ISLAND OF LOVE"

INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE VIA PHILIPPINE AIRLINES / HOTEL ACCOM / FULLBOARD MEALS /DAILY TOURS AND TRANSFERS/ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE/ALL ADMISSIONS

PACKAGES:

*SAIGON	$346
SINGAPORE	$335
SEOUL	$565
BANGKOK	$268

Inclusions:
Roundtrip Airfare
Roundtrip Transfers
3d/2n hotel accom.
City tour except Saigon
Daily breakfast



$419 4D/3N SAIGON
DEP. DATE: APRIL 28-MAY 1
HO CHI MINH/CUCHI TUNNEL/ MEKONG DELTA

FARES

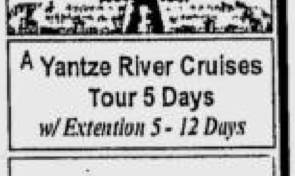
SEOUL	$380
BANGKOK	$225
HONGKONG	$255
OSAKA	$400
SFO/LAX	$925
HONOLULU	$920
VANCOUVER	$900
TORONTO	$1020
DFW/CHI/JFK	$1020
GUM	$361
SINGAPORE	$265
KUALALUMPUR	$400
JAKARTA	$375
AUSTRALIA	$520

MINIMUM 2 PAX

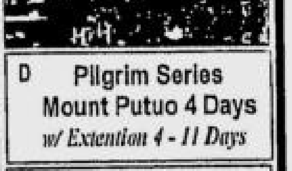
RAKSO AIR TRAVEL & TOURS INC
G/F All Seasons Bldg., 112 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-9667; 840-2681; 812-9509Fax No. 8402484; 812-8035
E-mail address: rakso@mozcom.com; ling_rakso@yahoo.com
IATA PTAA

China Panorama 華夏博覽

B1	*Beijing 4 Days*
H1	*Shanghai 4 Days*
C1B6	*Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days*
C1A	*Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6 - 8 Days*
C1B	*Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guilin 6 - 9 Days*
C1C	*Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 10 Days*
C2	*Hangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, Guilin 7 - 11 Days*



A Yantze River Cruises Tour 5 Days *w/ Extention 5 - 12 Days*



D Pilgrim Series Mount Putuo 4 Days *w/ Extention 4 - 11 Days*

Silk Road, Inner-Mongolia, Tibet, JiuZhaiGou National Park, Zhang Jia Jie National Forest Park, Central China Cultural Tours, Southwest Scenic Area (Shangri-la), *and more. . . .*

Accept hotel and air ticket booking throughout China.

For more details pls. contact your nearest travel agency or . . .

PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.
479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila
Tels.: 242-2585 Trunk line Fax: 242-2650 . 242-2652
PTAA IATA DOT 153-00
Http://www.pandatour.com

---

triplex Auto Detailing & Trading
TENT SALES AND RENTAL TABLES & CHAIRS
28 KJ cor. K8 St., Kamias Rd., Q.C. • Tel: 928-1486 • Telefax 929-5803
Website: www.triplextents.com

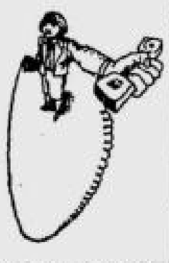
• GARDEN UMBRELLAS
• CAMPING & ALL KINDS OF PORTABLE GAZEBO TENTS

WE ALSO MAKE AWNINGS FOR WINDOWS AND ROLL-UP

Tents can be assembled in seconds.
It's all here in single unit.
No loose parts... No tools or rope needed...
No bulky storage... Easy transport and
Extremely simple... IT'S ALL ONE-PIECE!!!

NEED I.D. CARDS? MEMBERSHIP CARDS?

Get that Professional Image At NO MINIMUM



Digital Printing on Quality PVC Cards
Also Available: Offset Printing, Bar Coding and Magnetic Strip Encoding
ALSO GREAT FOR: Visitors Pass, Bag Tags, Giveaways, Promotional Items, Room Keys, And More!

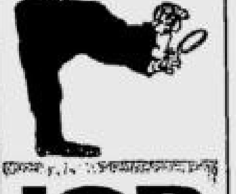
ROYAL ORIGINS ENT. INC. Call now!
Royal Origins: Telfax# 8151340
Mobile# 0917-3452941
Email: royal_origins@yahoo.com

SUMMER ESCAPADE

ROUTINGS	One Way	Round Trip	BORACAY	PACKAGES
HONGKONG	$170	$237	VISIT ALICE IN WONDER LAND IN BORACAY FOR AS LOW AS	$138.00 (SHENZHEN+ HONGKONG+ CANTON)
SINGAPORE	$225	$255		
BANGKOK	$180	$200		
TOKYO	$190	$400		
FUKUOKA	$190	$400		$189.0 (BANGKOK)
NAGOYA	$190	$400	Php 3800.00 (3Days/2nites Package)	
OSAKA	$290	$350		
SAIGON	$250	$300		$306.00 (SINGAPORE)
SEOUL	$190	$390	OTHER SERVICES	
KUALA LUMPUR	$200	$293		$340.00 (KUALA LUMPUR)
SAN FRANCISCO	$470	$890	PASSPORTING Php 999.00	
LOS ANGELES	$470	$890	RUSH	$329.00 (SAIGON)
NEW YORK	$505	$920		
HONOLULU	$480	$610	BIRTH CERTIFICATE and MARRIAGE CONTRACT	$388.00 (GUAM)
VANCOUVER	$390	$840		
TORONTO	$420	$990	"FLY NOW PAY LATER PLAN"	DOMESTIC TICKETS

PTAA *T & J Travel and Tours*
Sales Office : G/F Pan Pacific Hotel Adriatico cor. Malvar St. Malate, Manila
Sales Office Tel : 536-06-03 / 521-57-03
Telefax: 524-06-97
Main Tel: 781-21-69/ 70/72 Telefax:781-14-82

Where you find the best.



JOB Market
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

PACKAGE PROMO

12 DAYS EUROPE TOUR at US$1,880

SHENZHEN PACKAGE	$ 138	KUALA LUMPUR	$ 175
HONGKONG + SHENZHEN PKG	$ 148	BALI PKG	$ 408
HONGKONG PROMO PKG	$ 281	SHANGHAI PKG	$ 371
BANGKOK PROMO PKG	$ 189	BEIJING PKG	$ 478
MACAU PKG	$ 258	GUAM PKG	$ 355
SINGAPORE PROMO PKG	$ 308	SAIPAN PKG	$ 355
SIN + MALAYSIA + INDONESIA	$ 368	PALAU PKG	$ 449
		SYDNEY PKG	$ 675

INT'L. TICKETS		DOMESTIC PKG	
HONGKONG	$ 237	PUERTO GALERA	₱ 2,888
BANGKOK	$ 175	LAOAG	₱ 5,360
SINGAPORE	$ 257	BORACAY	₱ 6,835
KUALA LUMPUR	$ 130	PALAWAN	₱ 5,780
AUSTRALIA	$ 520	CEBU	₱ 5,465
SFO / LAX	$ 770	BOHOL	₱ 6,295
NEW YORK	$ 930	BACOLOD	₱ 5,675
NEW JERSEY	$ 930	ILOILO	₱ 5,530
VANCOUVER	$ 770	DAKAK	₱ 7,115
EUROPE	$ 725	CAGAYAN DE ORO	₱ 6,885
		DAVAO	₱ 6,510

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

PATISSE INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS
G/F LBB2 BLDG., 1933 SAN ANDRES ST., MALATE, MLA.
TEL. 4007701 / 4007702 / 5236954 / 4007705
Cell # : 0919-2841767 / 0920-9512896
E-mail : patisse2000@edsamail.com.ph

Special Promo Package

HONGKONG

EVERY SUN DEPARTURE 2NITE HKG/1NITE SHZ	EVERY WED & FRI ONLY 1NITE HKG/1NITE SHZ	EVERY TUE & SAT ONLY 4D3N SHZ W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD
$178	$148	$169

BANGKOK $189 $205 $210

SINGAPORE $316 $320 $330

BUDGET FARES

HONGKONG	$ 237	HONOLULU	$ 910
BANGKOK	$ 168	AUSTRALIA	$ 648
SINGAPORE	$ 268	NEW YORK	$ 993
VANCOUVER	$ 910	NAGOYA	$ 536
OSAKA	$ 405	TAIPEI	$ 300
TOKYO	$ 536	SEOUL	$ 345
LAX / SFO	$ 890	TORONTO	$ 1,005

BANGKOK+HONGKONG COMBINATION $338
SINGAPORE MALAYSIA INDONESIA $368
KUALA LUMPUR $353
4D/3N SHZ + CANTON + MACAU CITY TOUR FULL BOARD MEALS $189 EVERY TUE & SAT ONLY

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE.
WE ALSO OFFER PASSPORTING/ VISA ASSISTANCE/ NSO

SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
TEL# 9139560/08,4388227,4398769,4392847
CELL. 0916-2581024, 0919-5634347, 0920-5416440
E-MAIL: sans_travel@yahoo.com / P.Tuazon,Cubao,Q.C

FUN-FUN SUMMER TREAT!!!

EXCITING PACKAGES

CANTON+HKG+SZN	$ 138	GUAM	$ 330
HKG+SZN	$ 168	SEOUL	$ 525
BANGKOK	$ 189	WEST COAST	$ 590
SINGAPORE	$ 316	EUROPE	$2238

DOMESTIC PACKAGES

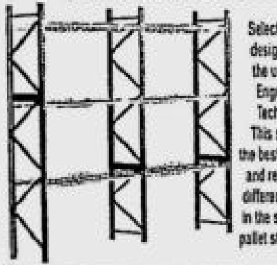
BANAUE+SAGADA	P4980	BORACAY	P6735
BOHOL	P5565	CEBU	P5565

STAR CRUISES THE FIRST GLOBAL CRUISE LINE Presents

Fly & Cruise
Singapore+Penang+Phuket
For only $ 568

COLORS TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 611 Pacific Bldg., Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
Tel: 241-8175 Tel/Fax: 242-0798 Mobile: 0922- 8120961
Email: colorstravel@fastmail.fm

Victor SELECTIVE RACKS



Selective Rack designed with the up-to-date Engineering Technology. This system is the best for storing and retrieving of different products in the same bay of pallet stored space.

RAVENDO
Platform Trucks from DENMARK
- 500 Kg. Load Capacity
- Heavy Duty 8" Rubber Wheels
- Simple yet Sturdy Industrial Design

LOGITRANS PALLET TRUCKS
2, 2.5 & 3 Tons Load
Low & Standard Profile
Wide & Narrow Forks

HYDRAULIC STACKERS
Lift Heights Available:
1,600 MM / 2,450 MM
2,850 MM / 3,300 MM
1 Metric Ton Max Load
Electric & Manual Models

Supermarket Shelves & Carts

MG 200Z
20, 60, 80-150 Liter Customer Trolley
Bright Zinc plated
Clear Lacquered

VICTOR HARDWARE
697-699 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6761 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-0169
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph

SUMMER VACATION

HELLO BEIJING 4 DAYS TOUR
Every Friday

SHANGHAI 4 DAYS TOUR
Every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

BEIJING, SHANGHAI, XIAMEN 7 DAYS TOUR
Every Friday

YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE 5 DAYS TOUR
Every Sunday

SHANGHAI, BEIJING, XIAN, GUILIN, XIAMEN 10 DAYS TOUR
4/16, 4/23, 5/07, 5/21

BEIJING, XIAN, GUILIN, XIAMEN 8 DAYS TOUR
4/18, 4/25, 5/09, 5/23

EAST CHINA 8 DAYS TOUR
4/10, 4/24, 5/08, 5/22

JIUZHAIGOU, LESHAN, MT. EMEI 7 DAYS TOUR
4/18, 5/09, 5/23

ZHANGJIAJIE 5 DAYS TOUR
4/11, 4/25, 5/09, 5/16, 5/30

GUIZHOU, YUNNAN 9 DAYS TOUR
4/19, 5/10, 5/24

MAY 1 SPECIAL PROMO
FIVE STAR HOTEL
BEIJING SHANGHAI 5 DAYS TOUR $589
SHANGHAI BEIJING 7 DAYS TOUR $699

Uni~Orient TRAVEL, INC.
BINONDO: 447 Juan Luna St., Binondo Tel. 243-3888
MAKATI : 167 Legaspi St., Cor. Dela Rosa Tel: 818-9585; 815-8326
CEBU : 90 F. Ramos St., Cebu City Tel: 253-1866

SPECIAL PROMO!!!
P16,500
Plus 8 Telephone Units
(Brand New)
PANASONIC MAIN SYSTEM
- 3 Lines 8 Locals
- 12 Lines 48 Locals
- 500 Locals Expandable

Authorized sub-dealer
Panasonic PABX
Authorized sub-dealer
intel Communication Corp.
318 Aurelio Bldg. 1, 9th Ave. Caloocan City
363-1083 • 364-8277
FREE DEMO

visit us at
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market ONLINE

CURE BAD BREATH NOW

Don't be a foul mouth. Eliminate bad breath and related problem of *sour/bitter tastes, dry mouth, thick pasty saliva, post nasal drip, phlegm in throat, white coating in tongue* with

THERABREATH KIT

Free use of Halimeter to detect the source of bacteria and monitoring bad breath condition

Call: 0915-4309207
0917-8511049

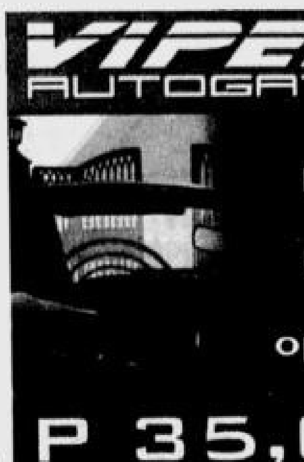
COPIERS Sales/Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS

P 15,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
BRAND NEW! RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS P 49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 290 FOR PERSONAL USE
P 15,000. ONLY RECON FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P 15,000. ONLY

PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!

COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph

- RINGBINDERS' LAMINATORS
- CUTTERS BLUEPRINT RISO
- FAX MACHINES ETC
- ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
- BUY TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS



VIPER® AUTOGATE
The Fastest and Easiest way to open your Gate
P 35,000
FREE INSTALLATION
CALL: 886-6696•788-0221
AVAILABLE AT MC HOME DEPOT•Makati, Fort Bonifacio & Ortigas

voted by readers SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004 Reader's Digest Philippines
SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004
SUPERBRAND HALL OF FAME
voted by readers SUPER BRAND GOLD Reader's Digest Philippines
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2003
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2002
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2001
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2000
SUPER BRAND GOLD 1999

PILOT
Experience the Ultimate writing instrument
V5 & V7
Hi-Tecpoint

PILOT Hi-Tecpoint V5 Extra Fine

BX-V5
BX-V7
Unique stainless steel pen tip with a micro ball in the tip made writing Ultimate Smooth

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax: 242-5671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo, Japan

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RECONDITIONED
RICOH FT 3713 Reducer/Enlarger For only P21,000
RICOH FT 3013 For only P15,000
Canon IC-MF 3112 Brand new Multifunction Copier
ALSO AVAILABLE :
LAMINATOR, FAX MACHINE & RING BINDER
SALES: 8997101 to 03 • 8997104
8997045 • 8997075 to 76 • 8997023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City • Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-0504 • (032) 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: Mc Arthur Highway, Dolores, City of San Fernando Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5055 • (045) 860-0383

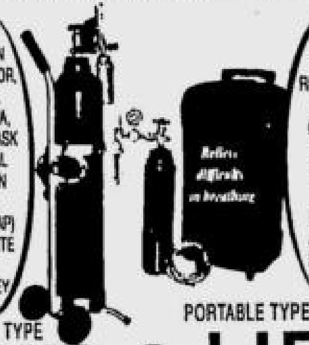
Not enough funds for the family vacation?
Fly Now, Pay Later!
Let's talk. Call or better yet, visit us.

PMC Finance & Investment Corporation
G/F Consolidated Mansions Condominium, 5420 South Superhighway, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 887-3661, 887-1785
887-1493, 843-6197
Fax: 843-1170
PTAA PHILTOA

HAVE A SMASHING SUMMER!
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
BIG DISCOUNT PACKAGES

SCB	The Success & Confidence Building Program
CP1	On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP2	On Grammar & Conversational English
CP3	On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP1	On Business & Technical Writing
WP2	On Feature & Creative Writing
JCP	On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension **for kids**

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE
MAKATI - 892-9502 / 892-9503 ALABANG - 845-0886



OXY-GEN THERAPY SET
instant relief in breathing
Your complete indoor & outdoor first aid kit
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR, NASAL CANNULA, ADULT MASK MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK, (15lbs CAP) COMPLETE WITH TROLLEY
MOBILE TYPE
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR, NASAL CANNULA, MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK, (5lbs. CAP) AND 3-IN-1 STROLLER BAG
PORTABLE TYPE
save a LIFE!
Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504 Fax (632) 631-7869
E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig City (02) 631-1715	Manila City (02) 711-8374	Cebu City (032) 254-2367	Davao City (082) 222-4404
Iloilo City (033) 320-1413	Lipa City (043) 757-2051	Pampanga (045) 961-7892	Pangasinan (075) 568-7390

Available in all mercury drug Stores Nationwide

BEST
Quality. Variety. Affordability. After-Sales Service.
Car Washer/ Multi-Purpose Cleaner
Commando 707
• 100 BAR/1500 PSI • 2.5 HP
P3,900 ONE SET
FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Major Credit Cards Accepted (Additional 7% Interest). Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
Exclusively Distributed by:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH: 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

HONEY HOLIDAYS

8D TOUR	MONGOLIA + BEIJING FULLBOARD Dep. May 1, 2005 only	$399
8D	XIAN+BEIJING+TIANJIN FULLBOARD Dep. May 1, 2005	$448
4D	HKG+SHENZHEN Dep: April 23 & 30	$168
5D	HKG+SHENZHEN Dep: April 20 & 27	$180
7D	HKG/SHENZHEN (with Windows of the World) ZHUHAI/MACAU+CANTON (w Panyu Safari) FULLBOARD except in HKG Dep. Apr 20 & 27	$299
4D	BANGKOK Dep: April 21 & 28	$179
5D	BANGKOK+PATTAYA FULLBOARD Dep.: April 21&28	$199
6D	BANGKOK+CHANGMAI+CHIANGRAI FULLBOARD Dep. April 21 & 28	$399
6D	ANGKOR WAT+BANGKOK FULLBOARD Dep.: April 21 & 28	$456
5D	KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING FULLBOARD Dep: April 20 & 27	$488
6D	BEIJING+SHANGHAI Dep: April 19 & 26	$339
8D	BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep. April 16, 19, 23, 26 & 30	$399
8D	VIETNAM (Hanoi+Halong Bay)+GUILIN FULLBOARD Dep. April 16, 23 & 30 / May 7, 14, 21 & 28	$567
8D	XIAN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep.: April 16, 23 & 30	$558
8D	SHANGHAI+JIUZHAIGOU FULLBOARD Dep.: April 19 & 26	$456
11D	SYDNEY+MELBOURNE+CANBERRA +BLUE MOUNTAIN+KUALA LUMPUR 4 STAR HOTEL FULLBOARD Dep.: May 18	$1,380
13D	NEW YORK+PHILADELPHIA+WASH.DC +NIAGARA FALLS+KUALA LUMPUR 4 STAR HOTEL Dep.: May 11	$1,680
8D	JAPAN (FUJI MT.+DISNEY SEA+OSAKA+UNIVERSAL STUDIOS+KYOTO+NAGOYA+AICHI EXPO '05 4 STAR HOTEL FULLBOARD Dep.: May 18	$1,780

•MAKATI: 892-8631 to 36/892-4704 to 05/892-4472
•MALATE: 522-1021 to 22 •JUAN LUNA: 243-8383 to 84
•BINONDO: 247-1456 to 57 •SAMPALOC: 740-3687 / 416-5371
•STA. CRUZ 783-4254 / 711-6776 •Q.C.: 434-3879 / 924-1957
•SAN JUAN: 722-6514 / 700-2814 BACOLOD: 434-7244/709-0291
•CEBU: 231-8693 / 231-8935 •DUMAGUETE: 2263914 / 225-7280
•DAVAO: 300-9260/300-9268 •Lorie: 0917-6270158
•Rosa Ang: 0917-5268838 * 0922-811-3838

SZN + WINDOWS OF THE WORLD 1N HKG+2N SHENZHEN	4D	VIA AIRPHIL	$168
SZN+CANTON+MACAU	5D		$178
1N HONGKONG+1N SZN	3D	VIA PAL/ AIRPHIL	
SZN+SHANGHAI+BEIJING	6D		$338
SZN+XIAN+SHANGHAI	5D	VIA AIRPHIL	$398
SINGAPORE	4D	VIA PAL	$305
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA			$360
BANGKOK FIRST HOUSE		VIA KU	$195
HKG/SZN + BANGKOK	5D	VIA CATHAY PACIFIC	$268
HKG/SZN + SINGAPORE			$315
HKG/SZN + KUALA LUMPUR			$338
HKG/SZN + SAIGON			$360

BUDGET AIR FARES

	OW	RT		OW	RT
HONGKONG	120	242	SEOUL	160	370
SINGAPORE	175	250	KUALA LUMPUR	205	270
BANGKOK	175	170	HONOLULU	340	560
MACAU	100	155	LOS ANGELES	360	870
TOKYO	190	400	NEW YORK	400	920
OSAKA	190	400	GUAM	290	400
FUKUOKA	190	400	VANCOUVER	360	840
NAGOYA	190	400	EUROPE	325	710
TAIPEI	140	290			
SAIGON	225	260			

TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.

MAKATI:	MANDALUYONG:	QUEZON CITY
Tel. # 753-3388/1121 Fax # 753-5588 Cell # 0917-7918236	Tel. # 533-7731 / 747-1284 Fax # 5325715 Cell # 0917-8523687	Tel. # 431-4629 / 952-7974 Fax # 431-4334 Cell # 0917-5391653

E-mail: trans_fare@nxdsl.com.ph / Website: www.transnational.netfirms.com
Domestic tickets and local tour packages available
We assist in all your passport, visa, and other documentation needs.

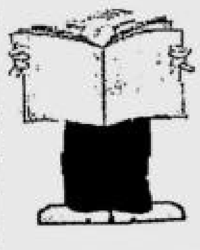
WaterCare®
Top Distributor for 2001 & 2002 South - East Asia
Pentair Water Treatment Plymouth Products AMETEK
Water Refilling Equipment Package
"THE TRUSTED NAME IN THE WATER BUSINESS FOR MORE THAN TEN (10) YEARS........."
NOW AVAILABLE AT AFFORDABLE PRICE!!!
8 UNITS / 18 STAGES (all in complete package)
ALSO AVAILABLE:
8 UNITS / 16 STAGES (all in complete package)

HEAD OFFICE:
WATERCARE MARKETING (PHILIPPINES)
3933 L. Roces Cor. Santol St.,
Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines 1008
Tel. # : (632) 716-6998 • 716-0880
Fax # : (632) 716-0903
E-mail:watrcare@ph.inter.net

ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
- SM Megamall, 5/F Bldg. A Tel. # 633-2510/20
- SM City Fairview, LGF Tel. # 417-8622/418-6024
- SM Southmall, UGF Tel. # 806-9393
- SM City Cebu, LGF Tel. # (032) 233-0252
- MC Home Ortigas Tel. # 638-5201
- MC Home Fort Bonifacio Tel. # 815-4270

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR & IMPORTER OF:
Pentair Water Treatment Plymouth Product (Ametek) • Nimbus Water System (Reverse Osmosis)
Badger Meter, Inc. • R-Can UV Sterilight • Rusco, Inc • Pentaiodide Resin
A Member of: Water Quality
NO FRANCHISE FEE / NO ROYALTY FEE
"The one stop shop for all your Water Treatment Needs"

Where you find the best.



JOB Market ONLINE
visit us at
www.jobmarketonline.com

Innovation System
Lease to Own Unit
Php2,000/mo.
3 Tel. lines/8 locals combination to 8 Tel. lines/20 locals combination
We also offer large system:
For Hotels, Call Centers, Banks, Hospitals, Universities, Offices, Municipalities and more.
EVER TEL
715-8114 411-2100
"Your Business Communication Solution"

JOB Market
We Wa
FOR IMMEDIATE HIRI
WE'RE ALSO LOOK
More employment opportunities in today's
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOB Market
Where You Find The Best.

LOSING HAIR? DON'T LOSE HOPE.

Losing your hair can be a big problem, regardless of how old you are.

It could adversely affect your confidence, self-esteem, image and looks.

But now, hair loss isn't necessarily hopeless.

Thanks to Nu/Hart, you can now restore your own natural hairline through hair transplantation, a minor office-based procedure.

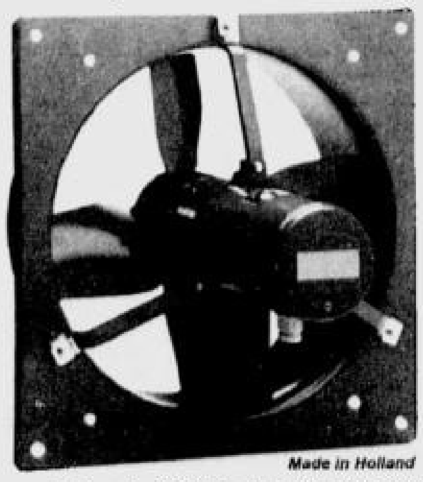
Nu/Hart Hair Clinic Manila is backed by a rich, 15-year history of over 25,000 individual hair restoration procedures performed on men and women from over 40 countries at 11 Nu/Hart centers worldwide.

A Nu/Hart hair transplant is:
- Permanent & growing
- Natural, using your own hair
- Maintenance-free
- Affordable
- No monthly visits
- No ongoing expenses

Call or visit us now for a
FREE CONSULTATION.
638-6000
26/F Wynsum Plaza,
22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Avenue)
Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)
visit our website at
www.nuhart.com
or email us at
manila@nuhartme.com
0% INTEREST MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

NU/HART HAIR CLINIC
There's a new you waiting at Nu/Hart.

Manila • New York • Chicago • Atlanta • Pittsburgh
Philadelphia • Denver • Puerto Rico • Dubai



Make your business establishment
HEAT PROOF!
Effectively remove excessive heat, unpleasant odor, suffocating smoke and fumes.
Made in Holland
indola PROPELLER FANS with Stainless Steel Blades
Ideal for:
• Bars and Restaurants
• Gyms • Kitchens
• Factories • Warehouses
• Livestock Farms
Call us for FREE Technical Advice & Estimate:
INDOLA International Phils., Inc.
665 Florentino Torres St., Sta. Cruz, Mla.
Tel.: 733-0366 to 68 • Fax: 736-1665
E-mail: mail@indolainternational.com
Website: www.indolainternational.com

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Pope performed miracle, says aide

VATICAN CITY—The private secretary of the late Pope John Paul II saw the Pontiff perform what could be claimed as a miracle, one of the key stages to becoming a saint, Italy's La Stampa newspaper reported Sunday.

It quoted Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz as relating how an American who was seriously ill received communion from the Pope, and was cured.

The incident happened in 1998, but Dziwisz, who was John Paul II's closest confidant for 40 years, spoke of the incident three years ago to reporters, who revealed it Sunday.

According to the report, Dziwisz told how an acquaintance had asked him if an American friend who was very ill with a brain tumor could meet the Pope.

The acquaintance said the dying man had only three wishes: to see John Paul II, go on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and return to the United States to die.

"I remember him very well, his face showed he was ill," Dziwisz said. "I also remember that he had no hair, which was clearly due to the chemotherapy (treatment) he was having."

The Pope, at the time at his Castelgandolfo retreat outside Rome, led a private Mass at which the sick man received communion, the holiest part of the Roman Catholic ritual.

Later, Dziwisz's acquaintance rang him to say that the man had been cured, "his tumor completely disappeared in just a few hours."

In his account of the incident, Dziwisz did not speak of a miracle but of a sign of "the supreme power of God" which surpassed human understanding.

La Stampa, however, pointed to the clamor at John Paul II's funeral Friday for him to be made a saint, and said it could be interpreted as a miracle.

If he were to be canonized—he made more saints than all his predecessors combined—his case must pass three hurdles.

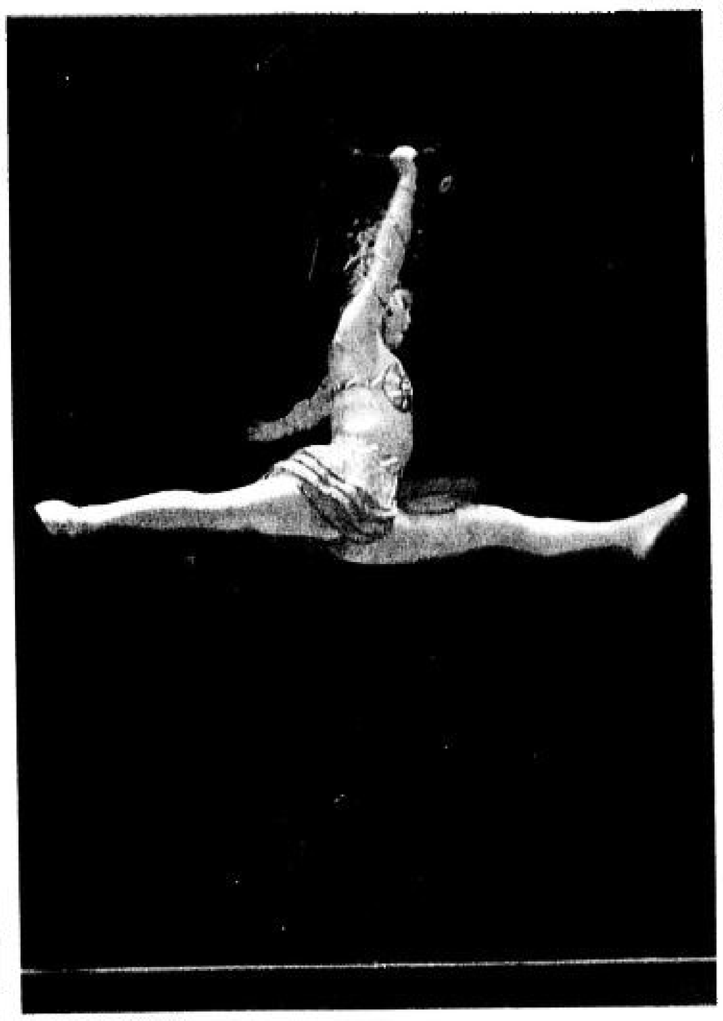
First is a ruling that he has led an exemplary life. Next is beatification following proof of a miracle as a result of his intercession.

The final stage, canonization, requires at least one more miracle.

Earlier this week, a Mexican teenager claimed the late Pope had performed a "miracle" on him 15 years ago that cured his leukemia, while a nun in Colombia has said he cured her of an illness affecting her balance.

On Saturday, Vatican spokesperson Joaquin Navarro-Valls pointed out in answer to a question on sainthood that it was up to the next pope to decide.

He said any such decision lay "in the sole competency" of the next pope. *AFP*



HIGH FLIER AFP

An artist of the "Cirque du Soleil" performs during their new circus show "Saltimbanco," April 8 in Boulogne-Billancourt near Paris.

Anti-Japan rallies rock China anew

BEIJING—Around 20,000 anti-Japanese protesters took to the streets of two cities in southern China Sunday, as Japan made a formal diplomatic protest over a violent rally outside its embassy in Beijing.

Burning Japanese flags and waving banners demanding Japan face up to its wartime past, around 10,000 people marched on the Japanese consulate in Guangzhou in Guangdong province, said Japanese Embassy spokesperson Keiji Ide.

He said another 10,000 people gathered outside a Japanese supermarket named Jusco in the nearby city of Shenzhen, just north of Hong Kong.

An eyewitness in Guangzhou said many protesters were wearing T-shirts with "Don't buy Japanese products" on the front. They carried banners saying "Terminate Sino-Japanese relations", and "Don't alter history."

Demonstrators were seen kicking a Mitsubishi car and eggs, bottles and tomatoes were thrown at a Japanese restaurant. As they marched, the protesters sang the national anthem and wartime resistance songs.

Outside the consulate protesters shouted "Come out Japanese dog," saying they wanted to hand over a letter of protest to diplomats, said the eyewitness, asking to remain anonymous.

Several thousands police ringed the office block housing the consulate and a police van with a loudspeaker later urged protesters to go home.

"We fully understand your patriotism, but please keep social stability. You must immediately leave," the police said. *AFP*

Bodies of 96 Maoist rebels recovered after major Nepal clash

KATHMANDU—The bodies of 96 Maoist rebels were recovered after a major clash with government forces west of Kathmandu, state television said Saturday, showing pictures of what it said were rebel corpses.

The fighting Thursday was believed to be the largest clash between rebels and government security forces since King Gyanendra sacked the government on Feb. 1 vowing to tackle the Maoist rebels who are fighting to overthrow the monarchy and establish a communist republic.

State television showed pictures of dozens of bodies lined up on the ground, along with a large number of arms and ammunitions allegedly used by the rebels.

"This is a big setback for the rebels," said an army officer speaking to the television crew from the clash site in Rukum district.

Three security force personnel were also killed in the action Thursday night, the officer said.

On Friday an army official said Nepalese troops had killed at least 50 Maoist rebels during the battle in western Nepal to repel a large-scale attack on a security forces base.

Nine soldiers had also been wounded in the attack on the base at Khara village about 400 kilometers west of the capital, he said.

It was not possible to independently verify details of the clash in the remote area.

Meanwhile, an Indian national and two Nepalese civilians including a young girl were killed and 27 others injured when their bus ran over a land mine south of Kathmandu on Saturday, police said.

Police suspected Maoist rebels of laying the device which exploded on a main road near the town of Gaur, 180 km south of the capital.

In a separate incident two Russians heading toward the base of Mount Everest were injured when their vehicle also hit a land mine Saturday on the Arniko highway to the northeast of the capital.

The spike in violence comes as a human rights report published Saturday said that the Maoist insurgency in Nepal left seven people dead on an average day last year. *AFP*

Suddenly, you may win your dream SUV by saving at RCBC.
DRIVEN
Unit shown may vary from actual.

Save at RCBC now - and you may win any of dream vehicles and home showcases to be drawn every month!

No need to fill out forms! "Driven" promo is automatically open to all existing and new individual depositors, and Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF) investors of RCBC and RCBC Savings Bank. For more details, get promo leaflet at the branch nearest you. Or call **894-9577**.

Promo period: Feb. 4 – Aug. 31, 2005.

RCBC Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation
RCBC Savings Bank

DRIVEN

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0559, Series of 2005

Trust placements are not covered by PDIC. Investor's safeguards are governed by Monetary Board Resolution Regulation 1055 (BSP Regulation on Trust). Due to the nature of investment, potential yield cannot be guaranteed.

MEMBER Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor PhP 250,000

BancNet

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Despite wedding, Britons want William to be king

LONDON—Prince Charles' wedding to longtime lover Camilla Parker Bowles may have been a success—but three polls on Sunday showed the British want his son William to be the next monarch.

The trio of public soundings could make depressing reading for the couple enjoying their Scottish honeymoon after they married in a civil ceremony that Queen Elizabeth refused to attend as titular head of the Church of England.

The middle-aged divorcees finally tied the knot in the windswept riverside town of Windsor on Saturday after a 35-year romance, prompting tabloids to agree on the same headline: "At Last..."

"The former Mrs Parker Bowles has pulled off the impossible and married arguably the most eligible man in the land," said the prince's former key aide Mark Bolland. "Camilla has seen off all her enemies."

Andrew Morton, Diana's confidant who revealed the breakdown of her marriage to Charles, advised Camilla that longevity was now the best bet for the 57-year-old mother of two.

"Simply stick around," he said. "Half the trick of royalty is becoming part of the furniture, from figure of fun or hate to national treasure."

The House of Windsor, beset by years of scandal, divorce and tragedy, is now eager to gauge just how much the British would forgive the woman blamed by many for breaking up Charles' marriage to the ill-fated Princess Diana.

Royal aides believe the vilified Camilla will gradually win round public opinion but it will be a tough task, especially when Charles inherits the throne.

Though people were often indifferent about the future of the 1,000-year-old monarchy, the Sunday Times, Observer and Sunday Mirror polls showed they were generally supportive of the wedding.

Reuters

TRUSTED ALL OVER THE WORLD
Pulmo-Aide Compact Compressor and Nebulizer
from DEVILBISS® U.S.A
5-YEAR WARRANTY

Pulmo-aide 3655 P
Compact Compressor
Pulmo-Aide 5650 P
(Heavy Duty)
DeVilbiss
PulmoAide

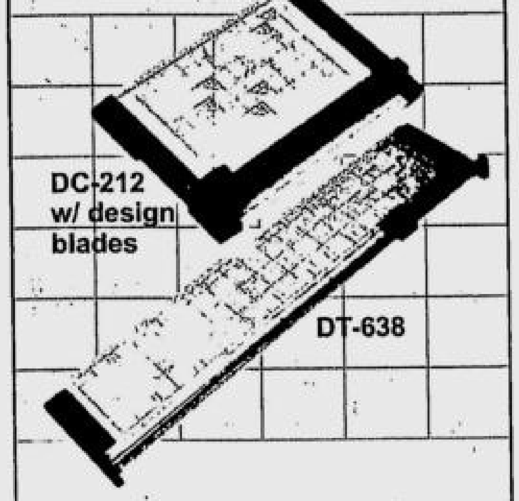
Relief that lasts!
Accessories:
- Pediatric Aerosol Mask
- Disposable Nebulizer Kit
- Air Filter
- Carrying bag (Compact Compressor)

Effective, Reliable, Affordable
for ASTHMA & other Respiratory Disorders
medical center trading corporation Pioneer St. Cor Shaw Blvd. Pasig City Tels 631-1715, 631-0356, 637-9504 / Fax (632) 631-7600 E-mail Address: medi...@info.com.ph

Pasig City	Manila City	Cebu City	Davao City	Iloilo City	Lipa City	Pampanga	Pangasinan
(02)	(02)	(032)	(082)	(033)	(043)	(045)	(075)
631-1715	711-8374	254-2367	222-4404	320-1413	757-2051	961-7892	568-7390

Available at all mercury drug Branches Nationwide

CARL
At work in the office
PROFESSIONAL
Paper Trimmer



New technology and precision cutting paper system. Suitable for school, office and home use.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
SINCE 1945
Times TRADING CO., INC.
523-525 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
TEL.: 242-5741 TO 50 (TRUNKLINE)
E-MAIL: times@pldtdsl.net
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING STATIONERIES, BOOKSTORES and DEPARTMENT STORES NATIONWIDE.

There is no security without "StarEye" CCTV System

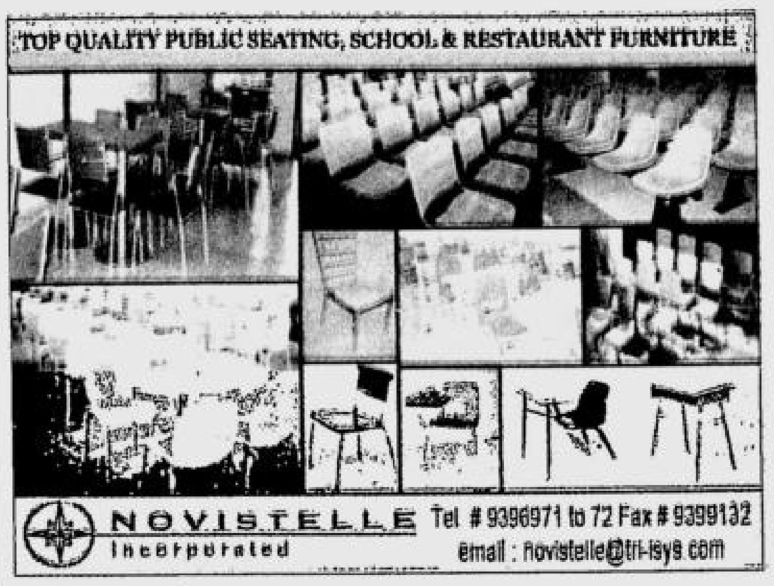
Near to you or far,
No matter where you are,
You can see, with
StarEye CCTV.

Star Value Electronics, Inc.
2nd Floor, 670 Sgt. Bumatay Street,
Mandaluyong City, 1550
Tel: (63-2) 746-4667; Fax: (63-2) 533-8627
email:starvalue@starcomm.com.ph

Other Products:
Access Control System, Burglar Alarm System, POS System, Metal Detector, GPS-based Vehicle Tracking System, other security related products

Dealers, freelance agents welcome!

TOP QUALITY PUBLIC SEATING, SCHOOL & RESTAURANT FURNITURE



NOVISTELLE Incorporated Tel # 9396971 to 72 Fax # 9399132
email : novistelle@tri-isys.com

Sec. Joseph H. Durano
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

The Department of Tourism (DOT) warmly endorses Cebu Pacific as the official carrier of Cebu Biyahe Muna Packages, the latest endeavor of the DOT in cooperation with Cebu Pacific, Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Cebu Association of Tour Operators in celebration of the Cebu Business Month.

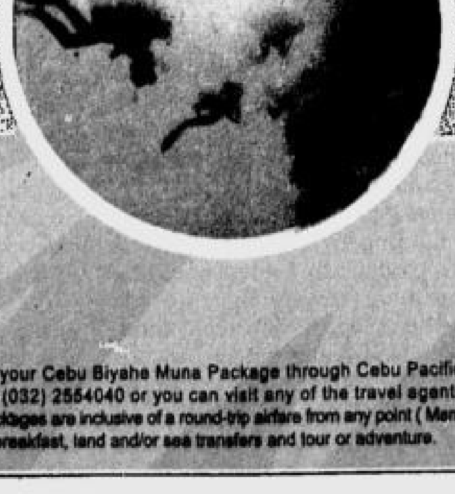
Through the years, Cebu Pacific has proven to be a dynamic and invaluable partner in the various initiatives of the DOT to spur domestic tourism. Its well-designed products and promotions offer Filipinos a welcome alternative, encouraging them to travel and explore what the Philippines has to offer.

Last year, the province of Cebu outshone all others when it posted the biggest number of tourist arrivals in the country. With the support of Cebu Pacific, we expect Cebu to surpass this outstanding performance.

I commend Cebu Pacific for its continued contributions to the Philippine tourism industry. I encourage all our kababayans to support this undertaking and rediscover the beauty of a province rich in history and culture and breathtaking beaches.

See you in Cebu!

Just in time for the summer, 'bay!



Packages:

CEBU SHORT BREAKS
Magellan's Cross, Fort San Pedro, Sto. Niño Church, Casa Gorordo Museum, Beverly Hills and Taoist Temple
for as low as P 5,544

ISLAND GET-AWAYS
Sumilon Bluewater Island Resort, Camotes Island, Bohol Escapade, Malapascua and Badian Island Resort
for as low as P 6,044

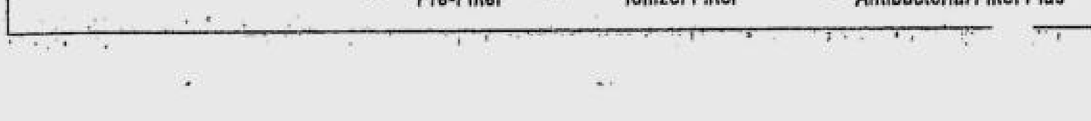
HERITAGE & COUNTRYSIDE
Centuries old Spanish churches, colorful markets and religious shrines with Carcar Town
for as low as P 6,439

CEBU ADVENTURE GO GOLF & GO DIVE
San Remeglo, Casa del Mar or Moalboal
golf for as low as: P 8,244
dive for as low as: P 9,044

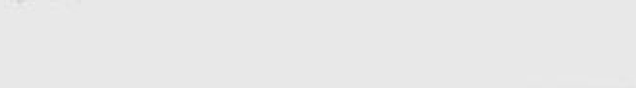
CEBU PACIFIC

- Book your Cebu Biyahe Muna Package through Cebu Pacific's Reservations in Manila (02) 6364938 or Cebu (032) 2554040 or you can visit any of the travel agents nearest you.
- All packages are inclusive of a round-trip airfare from any point (Manila,Davao, Iloilo), 2-nights hotel accommodations, daily breakfast, land and/or sea transfers and tour or adventure.

Photo by Daniel Carpentier


Bad Odor
Pollen
Pet Dander
Air Borne Bacteria
Polluted Air
Germs
Mold
Smog
Toxic Fumes
Cigarette Smoke
99% CLEAN AIR
1 Anti-Bacterial Pre-Filter
2 Multi-Point Electrostatic Ionizer Filter
3 Titanium Dioxide (TIO₂) Antibacterial Filter Plus

uni~AiR *Aircon-Purifier*
The 1st with 3-STAGE AIR PURIFICATION SYSTEM



Quality Air for a Healthy Living
Only from,
uni~AiR®
For Clean, Cool, Quality Air
FOR INQUIRIES: 821-7261 to 63

ISSN
0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 20 No. 122
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
OPINION
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
• 100% soy ink •

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
Associate Editor for Readership **Rosario A. Garcellano**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Desk Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Friday the 13th

EDITORIAL

WE will not say that we have caught President Macapagal-Arroyo in an outright lie. We will not even say that in her interview with CNN last Friday, she was being economical, or even parsimonious, with the truth. We will only say that she must have fallen victim to yet another of memory's many mean tricks. She must have mixed it all up.

Whatever we do say, however, the conclusion is inescapable. She did not tell the truth.

In her CNN interview, she said that it was the Pope, whom she met in a private audience in late 2000, when she was still vice president and in Europe for an official visit, who gave her the interior strength to finally resign from President Joseph Estrada's Cabinet.

"It was after my conversation with the Pope that I finally found—shall I describe it as courage or conviction—[to make the] break and join the bloodless revolution," she told CNN's international audience.

She did meet with the Pope that year: on Friday, Oct. 13, 2000, according to the Vatican's own records. But she actually resigned the day before.

"Serious accusations have been made against the President," she said in a statement she sent from Turkey on Thursday, Oct. 12. "Much as I appreciate the chance that the President gave me to serve the poor through the Cabinet position to which he appointed me, I regret that I can no longer continue to serve as a member of the present Cabinet." She then said that immediately after her official visit to Turkey, she would fly to Rome for a previously scheduled audience with the Pope. "I intend to return immediately. In the meantime, however, I must make my views regarding these events known," she said.

Then, at about noon that day (Manila time), she called Estrada to personally relay her regrets. Soon after, two leading members of Estrada's Lapian ng Masang Pilipino party followed her lead: Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez resigned from LAMP. All these political movements, which deepened an already grim sense of crisis, are a matter of record, mirrored in great measure by the drop in that day's stock market index and yet another spike in that day's dollar exchange rate.

Now why did the President make such an obvious mistake?

It is quite possible that the President was ill-served by her advisers. In the run-up to the last elections, for instance, Malacañang official Dodie Limcaoco told the media that it was **after** her October 2000 meeting with the Pope that the President broke away from the Estrada government. "And so really, events that come after a visit to the Pope are often attributable to the discernment [the visitor makes after the visit]," Limcaoco said, rather fatuously.

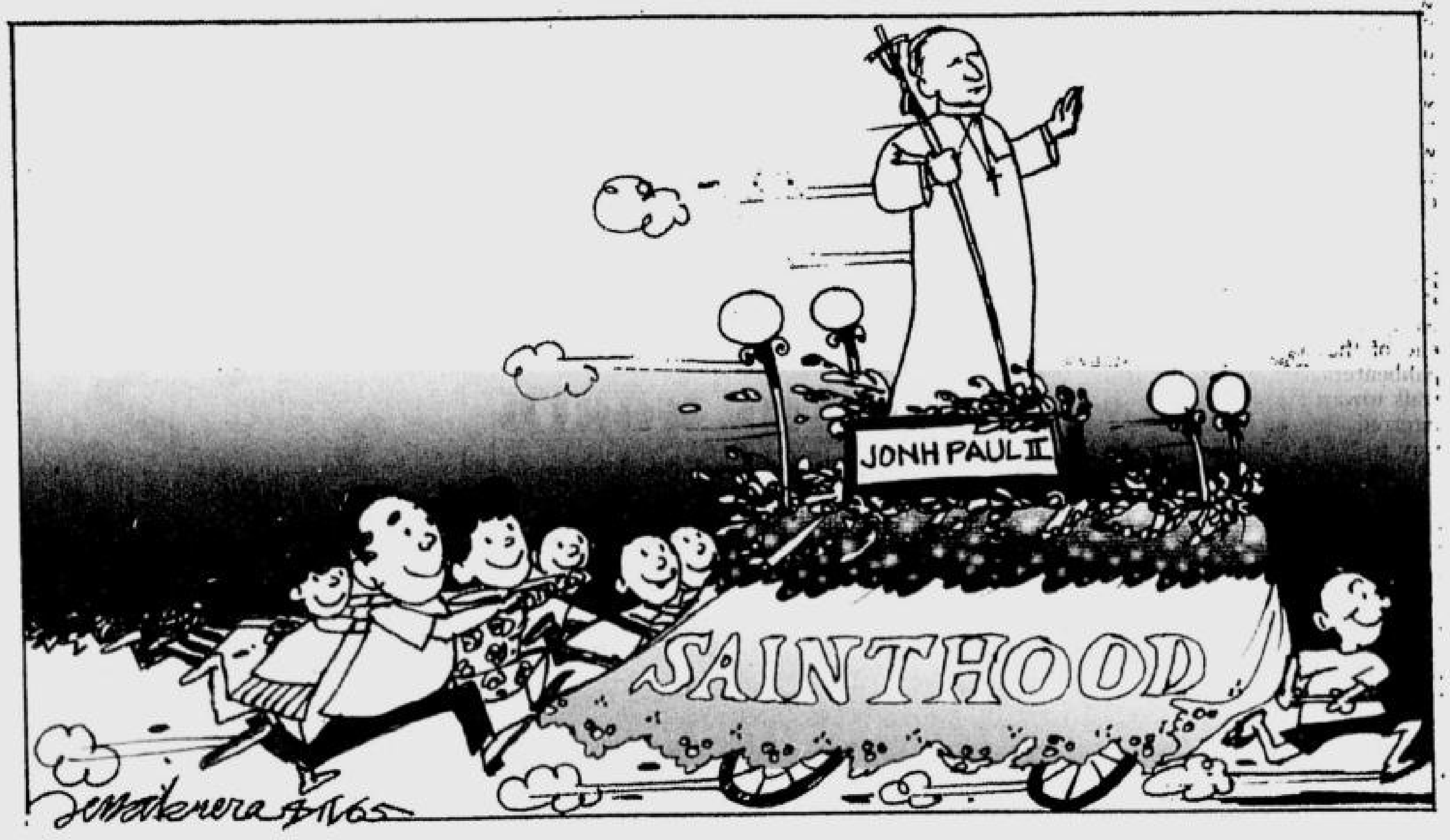
This statement by the presidential adviser for ecclesiastical affairs may have been the first time that the very idea (of the Pope giving her the strength to resign) became public. But it is even more likely that the President simply mixed it all up.

A devout Catholic, she also made a pilgrimage to Rome in September 2003 before finally deciding, the following month, to contest the May 2004 elections. (Critics will claim, however, that it was actually in May 2003, after another, more secular pilgrimage, a state visit to the United States, that she made up her mind.)

She must have mixed it all up, because if precedent is any guide, these private audiences with the Pope do not revolve around, say, the specific details of governance or partisan politics. In her CNN interview last Friday, the President could only quote the Pope in general terms. "The Pope had a very, very keen sense of understanding of what [was] happening in the Philippines and he was very encouraging towards my taking steps to make sure that I would do what I could do in order to promote morality in Philippine society." This, President Arroyo said, was what the Pope said in October 2000. But—and here is the point—she could have said it of her September 2003 audience, and it would have made as much sense too.

The truth is, meaning is all too often subjective. When Ms Arroyo met the Pope both times, she may have heard him give such counsel as "Be not afraid" or "Do God's will." But in October 2000, that meant resignation, and in September 2003, it meant reelection.

Going by the written record, however, the meaning she read in the Pope's words in October 2000 came not as revelation, but as confirmation.



The old swimming hole (2)

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

(Continued from last Friday)

FROM MACARTHUR Highway at Barrio Agoso, Tarlac, Tarlac, across the very wide, almost dry river, is Barrio Sta. Maria and its neighboring barrios, all named after the members of the Holy Family and other saints (Sto. Niño, San Jose, etc). The river so isolated the barrios that during the war Japanese soldiers were not able to set foot there, and guerrillas held drills openly and flew their flags in the area. Only toward the end of the war were some Japanese able to reach the barrios, but they were stragglers who had retreated to the hills and went down to the barrios for food.

In those barrios, during the rainy season, the farmers planted rice. During the dry season, they planted tomatoes, eggplants, sweet potatoes and plenty of sugarcane. Some of the fields were irrigated. The water was impounded in a big, deep pond that became our swimming hole.

My two brothers, two older cousins, and I lived there once for more than a year, and our chore was to bring the carabaos to pasture, which we would do with the local boys. In the afternoons, we would take the carabaos to the pond to cool and bathe them. The beasts seem to know when it was time for their swim. As the sun moved to the west, so did they, on their own, toward the pond.

They would go straight down into the water. Walking astride them, we would sink up to the waist while they swam across. Often, we would use their backs as diving boards. The water was cool, clear and deep, and we would swim underwater as deep as we could, and we could feel the water weeds brushing our bodies. We played tag underwater and held contests on who could stay the longest and deepest there.

When it seemed our lungs were about to burst, we would swim straight up and it was such a nice feeling to break the surface, into the sunshine and hear the happy shouts and laughter.

We would play in that swimming hole until the sun began to set. When the carabaos saw us standing on the banks, dripping wet, they would start getting out of the water themselves.

Kangkong grew profusely on the surface of the pond, and we would harvest shoots to take home. On the way home, we would gather the ripe tomatoes that had fallen off to the ground. So with the eggplants. We would also break off sugar cane and munch them as we rode the carabaos home. Around that time, the sunlight was still hot. By the time we got home, our clothes were dry.

I haven't been back to those places since then, though I would like very much to visit them again. I don't know how the barrios look now, or if the pond, our old swimming hole, is still there. But just thinking about it brings back all those happy times.

* * *

Closer to home in Malabon, we bathed horses, not carabaos, in the Tenejeros River. In those times, before the era of the jeepney, the *karetela* was king. For each *karetela*, you needed two horses, one for the morning, the other for the afternoon. We had two: a white mare and a bay stallion. I had hoped that love would blossom between them and that they'd produce a cute colt, but neither of them felt romantic. Perhaps, after pulling a *karetela* for four to five hours, they were simply too tired for romance.

Our elder brothers drove the *karetela* and the younger kids had the chore of bringing the horses to pasture and bathing them. Once or twice a week, we would take them swimming. We would gather all the horses in the neighborhood and race to the swimming hole, galloping bareback along the dirt road that was Sanciangco Street, across the Catmon River, hoofbeats clattering on the wooden bridge, to Tenejeros. Near the foot of the bridge, the bank of the river had been worn down by horses and people going into the water. We would ride the horses down this bank to the swimming hole and let them swim to the other bank and back, with us either atop them, or swimming alongside them, clinging to their manes.

Afterwards, we would bathe and brush them, then tether them to trees and rocks to dry while we played in the river. We didn't ride the horses on our way home. We walked them so they wouldn't raise and draw dust to their still-wet fur.

The Tenejeros River, as everybody knows, is now an open sewer and no self-respecting horse would dare dip a hoof in it. It is an indictment against the past and present officials and the residents of Malabon and Valenzuela, Bulacan, for having allowed the river to be polluted to death.

* * *

At that part where the Tenejeros River forks to the Catmon River was a mudbank, formed by the silt deposited by the river. During low tide, it was an islet—which is why it was called "*pulo*," a Tagalog term for "island"—but during high tide it disappeared underwater, with only the tops of a few mangrove tree seedlings peeking above the surface. But even during high tide, this was a shallow place and a popular swimming hole for young kids.

There was a bamboo raft called "*salambao*" in the deeper part and we would clamber aboard and dive from it into the water. The raft had a huge net that, when lowered into the water and raised again after 20 minutes, caught shrimps and fish. The girls would cook the catch aboard the raft. They would dump the live shrimps into the water in a pot above a fire and, as the water got hotter, one could hear them jumping inside the pot. Afterwards, they would roast the fish over the hot coals and we would picnic on board the *salambao*.

That was in the old days. Squatters have now dumped dirt on this "*pulo*" and built their shanties there. One more swimming hole is gone.

Life and death

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

I KNEW this Pope was well loved, but I didn't know he was that well loved. I'm not saying that by the number of potentates who went to Rome. I doubt most of them went there because they loved the Pope. I can't see that George W. Bush, Condoleezza Rice, et al.—who all sat in a row in one picture, oblivious to the possibility that God might send a thunderbolt in their direction to improve the quality of human life—did. Most of the potentates were there to be seen rather than to shed tears. But that is indirect proof of how well John Paul II was loved. They were there because they wanted to be associated with a winner.

But the spontaneous outpouring of sorrow that tumbled out of the world like a flood, from Christians and non-Christians alike, was breathtaking. And truly showed the impact—"historic" apparently was the most widely used word in reference to John Paul II—the Pope had on world affairs. I can remember few deaths within my lifetime that have been mourned at this epic scale. The sense of loss wasn't just national and global, it was personal. Some news reporters and even TV anchors wept unabashedly while covering the Pope's final hours on earth. He had touched people's lives, and touched them deeply.

I remembered a line from the Bible last week. It kept reverberating in my brain at the sight of kings and paupers, presidents and peasants, gathered in the Eternal City to pay tribute to the fallen. That line was, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his soul?"

More than any other pope in modern times, John Paul II reminded the world of the value of morality over power, of idealism over greed, of the soul over material possessions. Though he himself wielded much power and wealth, as head of possibly the most dominant religion today, he never used them just to acquire more of them, or add more conscripts to the faith. He used them to enlarge the scope of spirituality. Or put another way, he did not use his influence to add to the dominions of the Vatican, he used it to add to the dominions of the heart.

He preached the virtues of tolerance and accommodation, of listening to what other faiths, religious or secular, had to say. He did not bow down to the mighty, to increase the Vatican's stock and counsel in the halls of power. He took them to task, as he did the US government in its military invasion of Iraq, and the WTO in its economic invasion of the world. In word and deed, he drove home the importance of right over might, of spiritual needs over worldly wants, of a culture of life over a culture of death.

I was reminded in this respect also of something I learned during my activist days, which was that ideas, particularly those whose time had come, were more powerful than the most powerful weapons on earth. Or as Bob Marley put it much later and more lyrically in "Redemption Song": "Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery;/ None but ourselves can free our minds./ Have no fear for atomic energy,/ 'Cause none of them can stop the time." John Paul II more than said it, he lived it. He showed that moral force was more powerful than brute force, that the flowering of life was more lasting than the march of death.

You can't find a more dazzling image of the victory of moral suasion over lethal coercion than the most powerful people in the world, led by Bush, figuratively prostrating themselves at his feet. Suddenly, all the weapons of mass destruction—which lodge, not quite incidentally, for the most part in Bush's own country—paled before the force for human creation that was this man. A man whose light continued to shine upon the world despite having been turned, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, into this lump of clay.

You can't find as well more resonance for the Biblical passage above than the dead eyes of those that filled that row. Truly, what does it profit a man (or woman) if he/she literally gains the whole world but equally literally loses his/her soul? When everyone in that accursed row dies, there will be no keening and sounds of grief around the world. There will be dancing in the streets.

What John Paul II has wrought is historic, not unlike what Christ himself wrought during his time. Both preached the virtue of love in a time of hate, of looking inward in a time of empire, of accommodation in a time of murder and confrontation. The American Empire is not unlike the Roman one, even if its physical territories are not as explicitly defined. It is certainly not unlike it in its responses to ideas that subvert its power, punishing detractors ruthlessly, often with death. The only difference is that the Roman Empire persecuted Christ, with no small help from his fellow Jews. The American one made its peace with John Paul II with no small help from the world.

Christ ended up conquering the Roman Empire in death, his teaching of the power of love and brotherhood overturning its culture of hate and paranoia—till Rome itself became the seat of Christianity. I can only hope John Paul II will do the same. It wasn't only godless communism he opposed, it was expansionist capitalism he did, a thing Fox News and even CNN itself repeatedly ignored. They remembered only his contribution to the downfall of the Evil Empire, they forgot that he swung his axe too at the roots of the other, and bigger, Evil Empire. Call it faith, but I have a feeling the other, and bigger, Evil Empire will go the same route.

There was another passage from the Bible that leaped to mind at the glory that was Rome last week, which is found in a parable in the New Testament about guests in a wedding feast who sat at the back being asked by their host to move to the head of the table.

And the exalted shall be humbled, and the humble exalted.

Sights and sounds at JPII's funeral

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

ROME—Last Friday's funeral of Pope John Paul II, watched around the world on TV by at least a billion people, was something to remember and talk about forever. Under dark overcast skies and very windy weather, the 300,000 or 400,000 who filled St. Peter's Square and the avenue radiating from it up to the Tiber River, sent off JPII into eternity with lusty cheers and claps. Several million others, scattered in many parts of Rome, followed the funeral ceremonies on giant TV screens. As the world saw, JPII exited from this world in a plain walnut box. It was a fitting symbol of priestly detachment from the goods of this world.

* * *

The three-hour funeral ceremonies were punctuated by the mournful peal of bells at St. Peter's, which are tolled only for funerals. But easily the most heartrending part came at the end of the ceremonies when the one dozen pallbearers lifted the casket and proceeded to walk toward the basilica where he was to be interred. The quiet "Goodbye, John Paul" gave way to the loud cries "Viva Il Papa" and a mighty applause rose like a wave from the crowds. Presidential Assistant for Culture Cecile Alvarez, Secretary Cerge Remonde and myself, who were in the viewing deck just above the VIP section for heads of state, began the chant in Manila for JPII: "John Paul II, we love you!" as we raised the RP flag we brought along. Pretty soon, pilgrims from various nations followed suit. Our lusty cheers attracted the attention of President Macapagal-Arroyo in the VIP section and she turned around and smiled and waved. A dignitary asked her if the cheering group was of the Poles, and GMA said, "No, that's the Filipino group."

* * *

It was a dramatic moment just before the pallbearers disappeared with JPII's casket into the Basilica, when they paused and lingered at the entrance, and turned the casket around to face the throngs. Obviously, the gesture was to give the throngs and the world one last chance to toss him a visual *abrazo*. At that point, pent-up emotions burst into tears and sobs. At the viewing deck everyone wept, including the successor of Mother Teresa, Mother Nirmala, whom I had the privilege of sitting next to.

At the VIP section President Arroyo shed some tears, as did her daughter Luli and Gina de Venecia. Luli had a shawl over her black dress, but later she removed it and bore with the spring coldness as penitence. "Afterwards, I no longer felt cold," she related over lunch. Batangas Rep. Hermilando Mandanas, putting up with the cold in a *barong tagalog* (with thermals inside) that made him stand out in the dark-suited crowd, also shed tears, as did my husband. Such was the incredible effect of JPII on the crowds. Cerge Remonde, who forgot his handkerchief in the rush to St. Peter's, grabbed Cecile's scarf to dry his tears.

I said my own goodbye to JPII, feeling at that moment that a great era in the long history of the Church has just come to a close. What lies ahead for the Church of Christ?

* * *

While waiting for the funeral ceremonies, the heads of state had some time to greet one another and do some small talk. Among the earliest to arrive was King Juan Carlos of Spain, whose wife, Queen Sophia, wore her long black veil with a *paynetta*, looking every inch like a Spanish lady. The *hoi polloi* got a glimpse of Britain's Prince Charles, who postponed his wedding to the next day in deference to John Paul II. The world's only superpower had an extremely high-powered delegation in President Bush and his First Lady Laura, ex-Presidents Bush Sr. and Bill Clinton, and US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. But a priest friend of mine who sat near the VIP section said he spotted defeated US presidential candidate John Kerry, a Catholic, in the crowd, and that Kerry wore crutches. GMA had time to chat briefly with her Georgetown classmate Clinton, who told her, "You're doing well." Bush bussed GMA on both cheeks, and later, during the "Peace Be with You" exchange, the Texan president walked over to her and shaking her hand, said, "*La Paz, amiga.*" UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, who sat beside GMA, heard this and smiled. Later, Annan spoke about the four million people estimated to have descended on Rome in the past few days. GMA later told us she couldn't resist telling the UN chief, "The four million here came from all over the world. But the four million that met the Pope in Manila for World Youth Day in 1995 came mostly from the Philippines."

It was a most beautiful sight to see all the leaders of the world's religions sitting side by side in one section—chief rabbis from the big US cities, Muslim leaders, Buddhists, those from the Orthodox Churches. JPII really brought meaning to ecumenism.

* * *

The presence of Mother Nirmala, Mother Teresa's successor, who now heads the 4,600-strong Missionaries of Charity, in our viewing deck section did not escape notice, and many approached her for photographs. A small, rather frail-looking woman, Mother Teresa's successor told this columnist she is Nepalese, but based in Calcutta. I asked her if canonization for Mother Teresa, who was beatified by John Paul II two years ago, is imminent, and she said, "We need one more miracle." Is it hard to fill the shoes of Mother Teresa? I asked her. She smiled and said, "I wear my own shoes, but I walk with her." Are you already preparing a successor, the way Mother Teresa prepared you? I asked her. She replied, "I'm not. God is." *(Tomorrow, Ratzinger's message)*

What Allah has joined together

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Noralyn Mustafa

WHAT Allah has joined together in holy matrimony, the law may put asunder. This law has been laid down in the Holy Qur'an itself, leaving little for men to make compromises and considerations for reasons of time and circumstance, politics and commerce.

This, in essence, is divorce under Muslim law.

Divorce was probably the liveliest topic during the regional workshop on "Islamic Law and Justice for Muslim Women" held in Kuala Lumpur in June 2001. Organized by the worldwide Sisters in Islam, participants (from several countries including the United States and Iran and made up mostly of Muslim women lawyers and educators) discussed vital issues on gender reform and reproductive rights under Islamic law and in the light of cultural traditions in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Pilipina Legal Resources Center executive director Isabelita Solamo-Antonio who led our four-member delegation, together with lawyer Norma A. Maruhom who is also a professor with the faculty of Mindanao State University in Marawi, presented the paper on divorce under Muslim Family Law in the Philippines.

Divorce, as defined by the codified Shari'ah law, is "the formal dissolution of the marriage bond to be granted only after the exhaustion of all possible means of reconciliation between the spouses."

This definition is in accord with the spirit of the Qur'anic injunctions and Prophetic traditions pertaining to divorce. And in conformity with the Qur'anic requirement on arbitration, the (Shari'ah) Code created the Agama Arbitration Council, the task of which is to arbitrate and, if possible, to bring about conciliation between the contending parties.

The Code states that divorce may be effected by repudiation of the wife by the husband (*talaq*); vow of continence by the husband (*ila*); injurious assimilation of the wife by the husband (*zihar*); acts of imprecation (*li'an*); redemption by the wife (*khul*); exercise by the wife of the delegated right to repudiate (*tafwid*); or judicial decree (*faskh*).

To limit the number of times a divorce by *talaq* is permitted, the Holy Qur'an emphasizes that: "A divorce is only permissible twice; after that, the parties should either hold together on equitable terms, or separate with kindness (*Surah Al-Baqarah, 2:229*).

In the next verse it is said: "And if the husband divorces his wife (irrevocably), he cannot, after that, remarry her until after she has married another husband and he has divorced her. In that case, there is no blame on either of them if they reunite, provided they feel that they can keep the limits ordained by Allah..."

Where a husband makes a vow to abstain from any carnal relation (*ila*) with his wife and keeps such vow for a period of not less than four months, she may be granted a decree of divorce by the court after due notice and hearing (Art. 47, CMPL). This is based on the Qur'anic verse to the effect: "For those who take an oath for abstention from their wives, a waiting for four months is ordained; ...(B)ut if their intention is firm for divorce, Allah heareth and knoweth all things (*Surah Al-Baqarah*, 2:227).

"Where a husband accuses his wife in court of adultery, a decree or perpetual divorce may be granted by the court after due hearing and after the parties shall have performed the prescribed acts of imprecation (*li'an*)" based on the following verses of Surah Al-Nur:

"And for those who launch a charge against their spouses, and have (in support) no evidence but their own—their solitary evidence (can be received) if they bear witness four times (with an oath) by Allah that they are solemnly telling the truth; and the fifth oath (should be) that they solemnly invoke the curse of Allah on themselves if they tell a lie (24:6-7)."

Immediately following is the verse that states: "But it would avert the punishment from the wife if she bears witnesses four times (with an oath) by Allah, that (her husband) is telling a lie; and the fifth (oath) should be that she solemnly invokes the wrath of Allah on herself if (her accuser) is telling the truth (*Al-Nur*, 24:8-9)."

Another verse of the Holy Qur'an can also be made the basis of the above article. This is *Surah Al-Nisa* which says: "If a wife fears cruelty or desertion on her husband's part, there is no blame on them if they arrange an amicable settlement between themselves, and such settlement is best..."

But divorce by *faskh* is probably the kind that most Filipino women can relate to, because it is based on very familiar grounds: neglect or failure of the husband to provide support for the family for at least six consecutive months; conviction of the husband by final judgment sentencing him to imprisonment for at least one year; failure of the husband to perform for six months without cause his marital obligations in accordance with the Code; impotency of the husband; insanity or affliction of the husband with an incurable disease which would make the continuance of the marriage injurious to the family; unusual cruelty of the husband as defined under the Code.

In conclusion, Solano-Antonio and Maruhom in their paper said that the Code makes it clear to Muslim women in the Philippines that they too, have the right to divorce their spouses, although as they themselves admit, men are more privileged in the exercise of this right.

Now, through all these legalities and scriptural injunctions, the incurable romantic would ask: what's love got to do with it? Obviously, nothing. And where love has gone, probably the healthiest thing to do would be to save what's left of yourself in the most civilized manner and really move on.

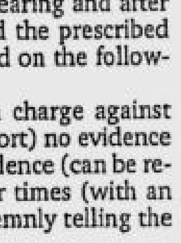
* * *

Comments to rubaiyat19@yahoo.com

Freedom and persecution

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III



POPE Pius XII, in the wake of the barely-foiled communist takeover of Italy in the late 1940s, decreed that any Catholic serving in a communist government would be automatically excommunicated. His successor Blessed John XXIII, who began the second Vatican Council, followed the decree and excommunicated Fidel Castro when the Cuban government officially became communist. No subsequent pope—Paul VI, John Paul I, or John Paul II—has lifted the excommunication, even during the thawing of relations with Cuba under the late Pope. The Vatican has had problems with the Cuban government arresting and imprisoning priests and bishops, who were sent to labor camps (although the worst-oppressed group in Cuba are the Jehovah's Witnesses). No new churches have been built in Cuba since 1959. Pius XII said he'd talk to the devil if it might do some good, and this attitude influenced John XXIII into holding a dialogue with communist governments the world over.

Still, it's not just the Vatican of the 1940s to 1990s that was anti-communist. The Church continues to have problems with communism, not the least because some of the worst persecution of modern-day Catholics are done communist countries. A cardinal *in pectore*, or in secret, was expected to be revealed in JPII's will. When this didn't happen, it was widely assumed that the secret cardinal is in China, but he can't be named to protect him.

Vatican's recognition of Taiwan doesn't help matters, of course. But neither does the insistence of Chinese authorities in banning Catholics in China from recognizing papal authority. To date, six bishops have disappeared after being arrested by Chinese authorities. Thirteen others are under surveillance or are being prevented from doing their work. Since 2001, 18 Catholic priests have been arrested, and in many cases, disappeared, for insisting on their loyalty to Rome.

This is, I think, a great dilemma that proponents of Liberation Theology (which tries to integrate Marxism with Catholicism) try to ignore. Paul VI wrote, "We know, however, that a revolutionary uprising—save where there is a manifest, long-standing tyranny which would do great damage to fundamental personal rights and great harm to the common good of the country—produces new injustices, throws more elements off balance and brings on new disasters. A real evil should not be fought against at the cost of greater misery." This is a statement that has been used by opponents and defenders of Liberation Theology; but this hasn't prevented the slow, but steady, withdrawal of the Catholic bishops' support for Liberation Theology.

It is difficult to argue for such integration of doctrines where one is used to persecute the followers of the other. Indeed, the communist governments of China and Cuba still persecute Catholics in a manner similar to the persecution of the early Christians under the Roman Empire.

There is also the question of generation gap. I once met an elderly Jesuit, Fr. Alfred Hennelly, who explained how he was drawn to Liberation Theology. "Don't forget," he told me when we met, "that there are actually Liberation Theologies. Those of Asia, and Latin America, with which Filipinos may be relatively familiar with; there is also Liberation Theology which grapples with the problems faced by people in Africa, too. There is also Feminist Liberation, concerned with how religion must not uphold sexism and patriarchy. And the theology applicable to people of color, African-Americans, for example, and Asian and Latin American immigrants. This is the type applicable to conditions in the United States."

As Father Hennelly put it, these theologies call for a total transformation of the Christian's concept of his role as a member of the faithful. A reorientation toward the interests and needs of the poor and downtrodden, a reallocation of the wealth of the community (and of the Church, too) toward the service of those who are as fundamentally entitled to food, land, and justice as those who already have it in abundance.

He said that the Church is not a one-stop station for loading up on heaven's goodies. It should be the launching point of an effort to apply teachings on social justice to everyday life. "The days of blind obedience are gone, and I think this isn't a bad thing." He explained that blind obedience is incompatible with the way the Church has to be. If being a Christian involves questioning a state of affairs which allows human beings to degrade their fellow human beings, and working for a world in which humans will no longer bind their neighbors with chains of repression, then it must also involve openness and uninhibited dialogue among the faithful.

But the generation that rebelled in the 1960s and 1970s are old now, and a genuine fear among them seems to be that John Paul II had nurtured a far more obedient, socially and doctrinally conservative generation of not only bishops, but also priests and ordinary people. That is why, in the days leading to the Conclave, there seems to be an undercurrent of fear among Catholic "liberals," including advocates of Liberation Theology, that a new pope can either reinvigorate their cause, or bear down hard on such theologies. If this were to happen, there will be the horrifying prospect of a liberal generation sliding into old age and irrelevance, as a new generation unsympathetic to them, takes over running the Church. If this happens, it must be asked: in seeking new ways of liberation, did its exponents fatally ignore the persecution of their fellow Catholics, in a manner more familiar, and yet ancient?

* * *

Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph

Chinese military bears watching

COMMENTARY

Ernesto M. Hilario

THE PEOPLE'S Republic of China is devoting much of its energies and resources to economic construction, and we have to look no farther than our shopping malls bursting at the seams with a vast array of made-in-China products, from garments to toys to electronic products, among many others. But what is largely kept hidden by Beijing is how it is slowly, but steadily, beefing up its military capability. The two-pronged approach—frenetic economic activity and frenzied military buildup—is apparently intended to make China not just a regional power but also a global superpower in the foreseeable future, with the capability to challenge the dominance of the United States in the Pacific.

Chinese leaders assert that economic modernization is necessary to lift the standards of living of the huge Chinese population and to achieve social stability. But the Chinese military build-up, on the heels of big strides in economic development, betrays the mainland's goal of regional hegemony.

In recent years, China's military has shifted from quantity to quality, with announced cuts on the size of its huge standing army as a clear indicator of the shift. Since the 1990s, the mainland has given the go-signal to keeping a nucleus of regular forces. At the same time, it is upgrading nuclear and conventional weaponry and improving operational capabilities. These are moves consistent with the requirements of modern warfare under high-tech conditions.

According to a recent Pentagon report, China is upgrading the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to US armed forces standards by focusing on increasing investment and procurement of high-tech, "network-centric" systems. PLA modernization involves the acquisition of precision-strike munitions, modern command and control systems, and state-of-the-art [intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR)] platforms. With ISR, the PLA expects to acquire a regional, and potentially hemispheric, continuous surveillance capability comparable to the US systems.

Compared to the US and Russian nuclear arsenals, China's known nuclear arsenal appears small. It developed a functional intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) in the 1970s and deployed it in 1981. The first versions of this missile, known as the DF-5, had a range of 10,000 to 12,000 kilometers, which were therefore capable of hitting the US west coast. But they were unwieldy as they were liquid-powered. In the 1980s and 1990s, however, Chinese engineers were able to improve the range, accuracy and readiness of this missile, and its current models are said to have a range of more than 13,000 km. And they can be readied for launch in 30 to 60 minutes. As of last year, China had at least 20 DF-5s in its arsenal.

Apart from its ICBMs and SLBMs, the mainland also has a minimum of several hundred nuclear devices built in the 1990s.

China has been modernizing its naval and air forces as well. The Chinese navy consisted largely of a coastal defense fleet in the 1950s and 1960s. Naval authorities have built a robust domestic shipbuilding industry and added new hardware through imports. China is said to have a total of 69 submarines at present. Beijing has recently obtained four Kilo-class submarines from Russia, together with two Sovremenny-class destroyers. This year, another two Sovremennys will be deployed, along with eight Kilos at a still unknown date. These submarines cannot compare with those deployed by the United States, but they are adequate enough to challenge American anti-submarine warfare systems and are equipped with potent anti-ship missiles.

China's air force is seen as just as antiquated as its navy. But the present fleet of combat aircraft will be supplemented soon with state-of-the-art equipment, particularly the Su-27 and Su-30. The Chinese are also developing the capability to produce the Su-27 in local factories. As of now, Beijing has 128 of these two types of aircraft. The total strength of the Chinese air force stands at 2,000 aircraft, but many of these are old. Moreover, according to Western assessments, the Chinese air force lacks adequate maintenance, logistics and training.

China's military build-up is confined not just to its immediate surroundings. Some years back, in the disputed Spratly islands in the China Sea, which is being claimed by a number of countries—including China, Vietnam, the Philippines and Taiwan—the Chinese started to build a structure of permanent materials in one of the larger isles and claimed it was nothing more than a resting place for its fishermen who happened to be in the area. But later, the Chinese intent became clear when the structure was photographed looking like a permanent military fortification, with one or several Chinese warships always hovering nearby.

The Chinese military build-up has ratcheted up the tension on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. Beijing insists Taiwan is a renegade province that must be brought back to the fold under the "one-China" policy, and that the Taiwan issue is an internal matter.

While claiming that its aim is unification by peaceful means, China has also said that it does not rule out the use of force against any intervention by foreign powers in the unification of China, or against any attempt to win independence for Taiwan. Beijing has already deployed nearly 700 short-range ballistic missiles on Fujian province aimed directly at the heart of Taiwan, and recently passed an anti-secession law that makes an outright invasion of Taiwan a distinct possibility. With Beijing's consistent refusal to take the path of negotiations on the Taiwan issue while it continues to steadily strengthen its military arsenal, neighboring countries, including the Philippines, have every reason to be worried about Chinese intentions.

Ernesto M. Hilario is a freelance journalist.

THEY SAID

Legal means

"When there's clearly a demand for these people to work in your country, you have an obligation to work out a system [so] that they can do it legally and safely. It's easier to deport them than to deal with them."

—Columbia University researcher and trafficking expert Kinsey Alden Dinan on the Japanese government's lack of safeguards for sex workers' rights, or ways for them to exit the industry

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Elections are a tool of peace

THIS government should stop the habit of arbitrarily postponing barangay elections as was done by past administrations. It leads to complacency among local officials. It hastens the deterioration of communities, especially those in the lowest rung of the social ladder.

As a social development worker, I know that there is only one barangay out of 10 where constituents are satisfied with their local councils. The rest variously describe their village officials as *tamad, mahihina, kurakot, parang* drug lords, *arogante, sabungero, mga politico lang, walang ginagawa*, etc.

No doubt these expressions of frustration are indications of heaving social volcanoes that demand attention. The least that the Arroyo administration can do is allow the people to exercise their sense of empowerment. Elections are a tool of peace and stability in a democracy. Let the people use that tool periodically for their well-being.

—LORIE TOLEDO,
107 Santan St., UPS 4,
Parañaque City

Summer Cruisecapades

RoyalCaribbean INTERNATIONAL

Celebrity X Cruises

REDISCOVER EUROPE ON "BRILLIANCE OF THE SEAS"
7- NIGHT MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 724.00	$ 1,824.00
OUTSIDE CABIN	917.00	2,017.00
PORT CHARGES	169.10	

SAILING DATE: MAY 15, 2005

EXPLORE THE CARIBBEAN ON THE "MARINER OF THE SEAS"
7- NIGHT EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
OUTSIDE CABIN	$ 630.00	$ 1,830.00
CABIN W/ balcony	770.00	1,970.00
PORT CHARGES	180.85	

SAILING DATE: MAY 1, 2005

GET A TASTE OF THE PACIFIC COAST ONBOARD THE "VISION OF THE SEAS"
5- NIGHT LOS ANGELES TO VANCOUVER

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INSIDE CABIN	$ 400.00	$ 1,300.00
OUTSIDE CABIN	590.00	1,490.00
CABIN W/ balcony	680.00	1,580.00
PORT CHARGES	163.40	

SAILING DATE: MAY 22, 2005

CRUISE DEALS ON THE "CENTURY"
12- NIGHT SCANDANAVIA & RUSSIA

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INTERIOR STATE ROOM	$ 1,275.00	$ 2,175.00
OCEAN VIEW STATEROOM	1,585.00	2,485.00
PORT CHARGES	217.90	

SAILING DATE: JUNE 2, 2005

ROMANCING EUROPE ONBOARD "GALAXY"
11- NIGHT EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INTERIOR STATE ROOM	$ 1,495.00	$ 2,395.00
OCEAN VIEW STATEROOM	1,735.00	2,635.00
PORT CHARGES	210.00	

SAILING DATE: JUNE 13, 2005

SPECIAL DEAL ON ALASKA ONBOARD "MERCURY"
7- NIGHT HUBBARD GLACIER CRUISE

FOR AS LOW AS:	CRUISE ONLY	FLY/CRUISE
INTERIOR STATE ROOM	$ 490.00	$ 1,640.00
OCEAN VIEW STATEROOM	685.00	1,835.00
BALCONY	1,200.00	2,350.00
PORT CHARGES	249.05	

SAILING DATE: MAY 20, 2005

ALL RATES AND CABIN AVAILABILITY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Call your preferred travel agent or
Royal Caribbean International & Celebrity Cruises

Tel. Nos.: 894-3957, 892-2702, 892-2703 or send your inquiries by fax at 892-2790
e-mail: rylcaribbean@arpanair.com.ph
Cebu: c/o Baron Travel (Cebu) Nos.: (032) 255-6095 to 96 or Fax to (032) 254-5344
e-mail:btc-outbound@pacific.net.ph
Website: www.royalcaribbeanphil.com/www.celebritycruisesphil.com

Savings or quality?

IN THE NEXT two months, government employees will work 10 hours a day, for only four days a week instead of the usual eight hours a day for five days a week. The change was made to enable the government to conserve energy.

The government should also consider the impact of the changed work schedule on the employees. Consider a working mom: she prepares and cooks dinner for the family as she arrives home from office, attends to her kids and does more household chores besides. How could she do all these when she'd be home late?

Also, the 10-hour work per day scheme might be too exhausting for the employees. Eight hours of work a day already is. What I'm trying to say is: Will the employees be able to render the same quality of service to the public? In other words, the government might save P144 million a year, but let it not be at the expense of other people.

—VASSY CHOA-SHI,
Malabon, MM

Doing its best

WE write in connection with an article titled "SEC, SC lead in fighting corruption" written by Fe Zamora. (PDI, 3/12/05) The report was based on a January 2004 survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations. Obviously, only portions of the survey findings were shown to Zamora.

Among the important findings in that survey come under the question on the "Most Trusted Agency To Complain To" where the Office of the Ombudsman got the highest rating (22 percent, up from 16 percent in 2002/2003 surveys), which represents a 6-percent positive increase.

Also, although the Office of the Ombudsman ranks seventh in net sincerity among 24 government agencies fighting corruption, its rating of +28 represents the second highest positive increase in the category for a period of one year.

The Office of the Ombudsman is facing tremendous odds in its fight to curb graft and corruption due to a severe lack of resources. As noted by the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy, "even if the government really wanted to get serious about corruption, it would not be able to do so unless it spends a lot more money beefing up the country's ill-equipped anti-corruption forces... and those responsible for fighting corruption simply do not have the financial resources to do their jobs efficiently."

Indeed, in 2003, the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering, in its Mutual Evaluation Report on the Republic of the Philippines, confirmed this, stressing that "[t]he Office of the Ombudsman ... is severely under-resourced..." Likewise, the Feliciano Commission, constituted to investigate the Oakwood mutiny, emphasized in its report that, "the Office of the Ombudsman must be given the budgetary and other support that it needs, with all possible dispatch..." Nevertheless, the Office of the Ombudsman is exerting its very best to fight corruption.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the INQUIRER for all its efforts in exposing and curbing corruption.

—SIMEON V. MARCELO,
ombudsman,
Office of the Ombudsman,
Agham Road, Diliman, QC

High-priced drugs

ALLOW me to thank Neal Cruz for exposing the cartels on oil, cement and drugs that are indeed "killing us softly." (PDI, 3/28/05)

I was one of the victims of drug overpricing myself when my husband got seriously ill with pneumonia. The prescribed antibiotic (ztromax) cost P225 per tablet. I had to beg the doctor to prescribe a cheaper one. But ziforoxim was for me still costly at P88 per tablet.

I think that P88 per tablet was still a hold-up because when I checked with the drugstore, I found out that the price of a generic antibiotic (amoxicillin 500 mg) was only P6.

I have also read some newspaper advertisements showing the big difference in the prices between branded and generic drugs.

I am now convinced that the government must control the prices of medicines in this country.

But even before a law is passed regulating medicine prices, Filipinos should immediately shift to patronizing generic medicines. By doing so, we will dramatically bring down the profits of big multinational drug companies and eventually force them into bankruptcy.

The prices of medicines in the Philippines are not only alarming but scandalous. Congress should act now to regulate them. Such an act will help President Macapagal-Arroyo lift her sagging popularity and redeem the present Congress of all its past misdeeds—among them, its passage of the highly contentious 2-percent increase in value added tax.

Let us write our congressmen and tell them about the miseries we suffer every time we buy medicines.

—LUALHATI O. CAPISTRANO,
Cabiao, Nueva Ecija

It's a brand new day!
3D
For quality you can trust

A fresh beginning means better performance. 3D, the name you have always trusted, now returns with new products, better service and the same powerful performance that you have known for many years. We are committed to providing your homes and offices with high-quality appliances that are Durable, Dynamic, Distinctive. Greet each brand new day with 3D appliances and enjoy supreme performance that will last a lifetime.

For Metro Manila:
MAIN SERVICE CENTER
#3 Mercury Drive, Bagumbayan Quezon City.
Tel#911-7016 to 25 Fax#911-9554

MANDALUYONG BRANCH
Unit T Facilities Center Bldg.
#548 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City
Tel. # 532-5801, 532-6807

SM MEGAMALL BRANCH
5th Floor, Bldg. B
SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City
Tel. # 632-0207

SM SOUTHMALL BRANCH
Unit 2049 East Wing,
Cyberzone Area SM Southmall Las Pinas City
Tel # 802-1554

For Provincial:
CITY SUPERMARKET INC.
259 A.B. Fernandez Avenue, Dagupan City
Tel # (075) 522-2676

J.F. DISTRIBUTORS
Jereza Street Cor Lapu-Lapu Cebu City
Tel. # (032) 254-7132 Telefax # (032) 253-6236

ECOLAMP MULTI RESOURCES
125 Magsaysay Avenue, Davao City
Tel. # (082) 227-3896
Fax. # (082) 221-3396

PO'S MARKETING ENT.
Araneta Street, Singcang Bacolod City
Telefax # (034) 433-0334

GRAPHIC ALL-IN STORE
Capt. Vicente Roa Extension, Cagayan De Oro City
Tel. # (088) 856-1999 Fax. # (088) 856-9999

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION
E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Another Bayan Muna leader shot in E. Samar

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The provincial coordinator of Bayan Muna in Eastern Samar is now fighting for his life after he was shot while driving his motorcycle on Saturday morning in the capital town of Borongan.

Alden "Boy" Ambida, 48, was in critical condition at the Borongan District Hospital for bullet wounds in the heart and lower back.

Ambida was riding his motorcycle-for-hire (MCH) with a female passenger at about 11 a.m. on Saturday when two men on board a motorcycle drove alongside him at Libanan Road, Borongan.

One of the assailants then repeatedly fired at Ambida and then they sped off toward an unknown direction, said Nestor Nirza, Bayan Muna regional information officer.

Although wounded, Ambida was able to drive the motorcycle to the hospital, a few meters from where he was ambushed. His passenger was unharmed.

The police recovered five slugs of still unknown caliber from the crime scene.

The attack on Ambida is the third atrocity perpetrated against Bayan Muna in Eastern Visayas in less than a month.

Last March 14, Bayan Muna regional coordinator Felidito Dacut was shot dead along Arellano Street in Tacloban City.

On April 6, five improvised bombs were lobbed at the Bayan Muna office in Catarman town, Northern Samar, which injured one person.

Akbayan party-list Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales, chair of the House committee on human rights, said she would file a resolution, seeking a congressional inquiry on the killings of members of party-list groups like Bayan Muna.

The inquiry would try to determine who were behind the killings and why the government was keeping its mouth shut on these, she said.

The fisherfolk group Pamalakaya urged Senators Aquilino Pimentel and Joker Arroyo to start an investigation on the recent spate of killings of leftist activists and journalists in the country.

Senior Supt. Pio Manito, Eastern Samar police director, said an investigation was being conducted to determine who were behind the attempt on Ambida's life.

He said the police were not discounting the possibility of Ambida's position as Bayan Muna provincial coordinator.

Nirza said they believed that the military was behind the incident, noting a similar pattern on the killing of Dacut.

Dacut, 51, was on board a passenger jeepney when shot by one of two men on board a motorcycle. The police had yet to identify the culprits.

"We strongly condemn this latest incident involving our member. We are calling our [police] authorities to resolve these cases," Nirza said.

He said they were urging the Commission on Human Rights to look into "these series of incidents" involving their members.

Bayan Muna Rep. Joel Virador denounced the intensifying military operations in Borongan, Eastern Samar after the attempted killing of Ambida.

Major Gen. Jovito Palparan, chief of the 8th Infantry Division based in Catbalogan, Samar, has repeatedly denied that the military was involved in the recent attacks against Bayan Muna in the region.

With a report from Connie Fernandez, PDI Visayas Bureau and Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Bayan Muna exec's widow pleads to witnesses

BAGUIO CITY—Standing beside a chalk outline of her dead husband's body on a Baguio public market road, the widow of Bayan Muna coordinator Romeo Sanchez pleaded on Thursday to vendors to stand up and testify.

Police here released the name of their prime suspect, but the murder case appeared to have grounded to a halt due to the absence of witnesses, complained activist Elvie Sanchez.

But Manny Loste, Bayan Muna national vice chair, said he still believed that the government was to blame, after news leaked out that the military intelligence office has a power point presentation identifying Bayan Muna among its "enemies."

Sanchez was among 13 activists from Ilocos region who were ordered arrested by a local court at the behest of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, in connection with the murder of former rebel priest Conrado Balweg on Dec. 31, 1999.

"Millions of Filipinos voted to make Bayan Muna the top party-list group to [join the halls of Congress] . . . No administration can kill those millions," Loste said during special Mass at the spot at the public market here where Sanchez was gunned down on March 9.

MEMBERS of the family of slain Bayan Muna coordinator Romeo Sanchez gather around a candle in homage to their kin. VINCENT CABREZA

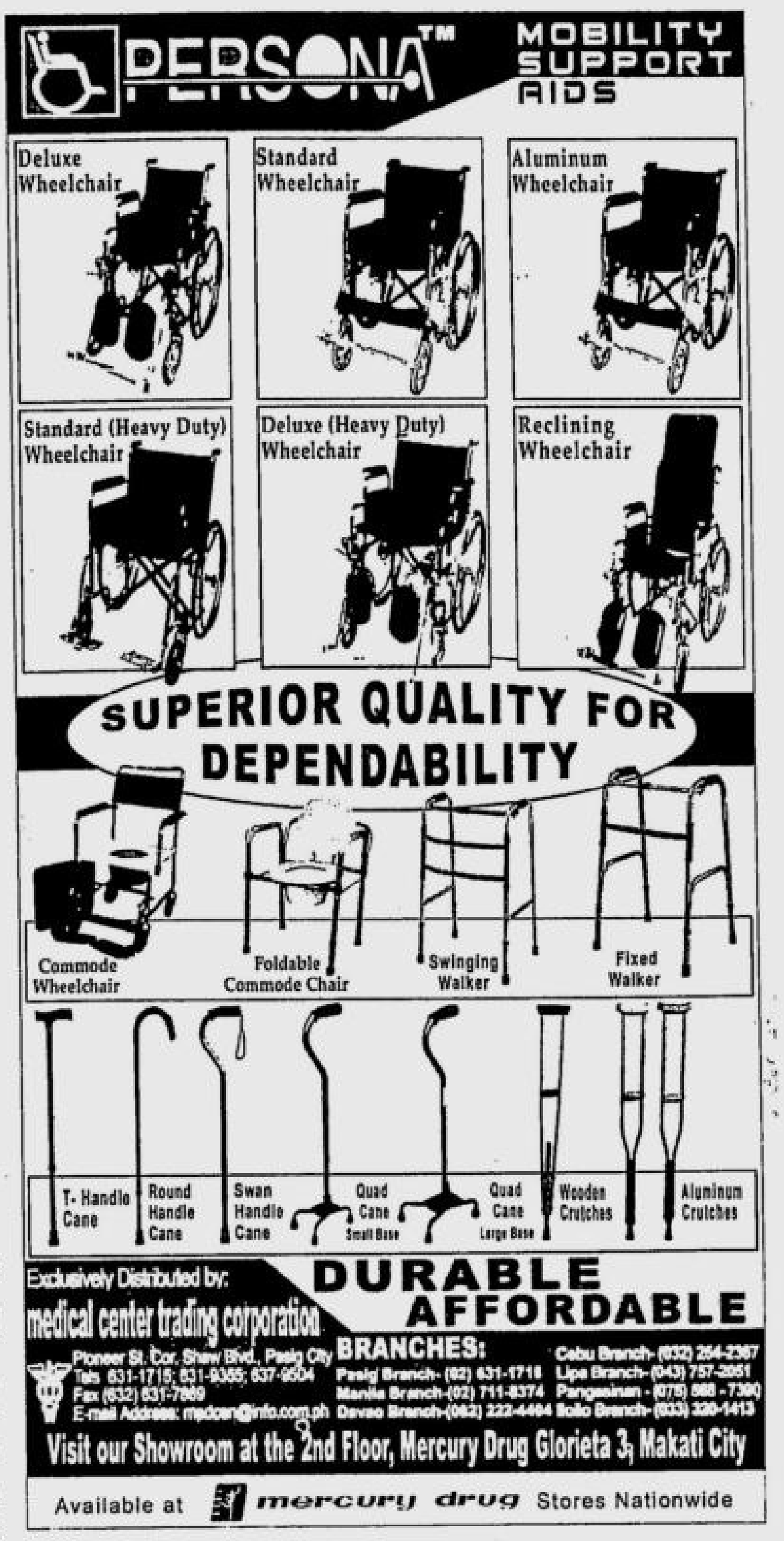
Sanchez's widow said her children had been hurt most by the pace her husband's murder investigation had taken. She asked the vendors to recognize the bewilderment of her youngest daughter, four-year-old Lina, who cannot understand what had happened to their family.

Police said a composite of Sanchez's assassin was developed from how vendors identified the gunman, and managed to turn up a name, "Alvin Binuya."

But no one in Bayan Muna or the militant Cordillera Peoples Alliance recognizes the name, said Loste.

He said the government must account for its methodical attacks on civil liberties, now that people like Sanchez are being murdered for airing their feelings about the Arroyo administration.

Sanchez and fellow activist Nomer Kuan disappeared on May 8, 2001, only to surface as murder suspects of the Isafp 10 days later. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*


PERSONA™ MOBILITY SUPPORT AIDS

Deluxe Wheelchair
Standard Wheelchair
Aluminum Wheelchair
Standard (Heavy Duty) Wheelchair
Deluxe (Heavy Duty) Wheelchair
Reclining Wheelchair

SUPERIOR QUALITY FOR DEPENDABILITY

Commode Wheelchair
Foldable Commode Chair
Swinging Walker
Fixed Walker
T-Handle Cane
Round Handle Cane
Swan Handle Cane
Quad Cane Small Base
Quad Cane Large Base
Wooden Crutches
Aluminum Crutches

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869
E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

DURABLE
AFFORDABLE

BRANCHES:
Pasig Branch- (02) 631-1718
Manila Branch-(02) 711-8374
Davao Branch-(082) 222-4464
Cebu Branch- (032) 254-2367
Lipa Branch- (043) 757-2051
Pangasinan - (075) 568 - 7390
Iloilo Branch- (033) 320-1413

Visit our Showroom at the 2nd Floor, Mercury Drug Glorieta 3, Makati City

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

i-Petgard mo na si bantay, Love ka non!
Petgard
Petgard Dog Soap • Petgard Dog Shampoo • Petgard Flea Collar
Petgard Glycerine • Petgard Flea & Tick Powder • Petgard Dog Coat Groomer
Available At Leading Supermarkets And All Mercury Drug Outlets
Provincial Distributor: PHILUSA
Manufatured By: BIOCHEMICA INCORPORATED Tel. No. 631-9630 • 635-2681
QUALITY GUARANTEE

St. Luke's
Medical Center

INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY
17TH Anniversary Celebration
presents its
10th Post-Graduate Course

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS
IN THE PRACTICE OF PATHOLOGY

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY
14th Floor Cathedral Heights Building Complex
April 18, 2005 8AM-5PM

Drug Testing in the Workplace
Ma. Cecilia Lim, M.D.

Biochemical Identification of Bacterial Isolates
Evelina N. Lagamayo, M.D

The Importance of Right Lipid Diagnostics in Relevance with High Risk Cardiac Diseases
Patrick Govaers, Ph.D.

Principles and Practice of Immunologic Testing
Raymundo W. Lo, M.D.

Diagnosis of Anemia: Correlation with Morphology and Automated CBC
Januario D. Veloso, M.D.

Peripheral Blood Smears: Clues and Caveats
Arvin Faundo, M.D.

Approach to Laboratory Evaluation of Bleeding Disorders
Januario Jr. D. Veloso, M.D.

Overview and Update on Stem Cell Transplantation
Arvin Faundo, M.D.

Registration Fee: Php 1,200 (before April 1, 2005)
Php 1,500 (April 1, 2005 onwards)
Inclusive of educational materials (CDROM/ Handouts), lunch and coffee breaks

ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY
14th Floor Cathedral Heights Building Complex
April 19, 2005 8AM-5PM

I. Breast Cytopathology: A Case Oriented Overview

II. Pathologic Indices in Prognostication and Treatment of Breast Carcinoma
Ronaldo L. Zamuco, M.D.

I. Special Types of Invasive Ductal Carcinoma

II. Adenosis and Epitheliosis (Epithelial Hyperplasia)

III. Mimics, Microcalcifications and Pitfalls in Breast Pathology
Manuelito A. Madrid, M.D.

Afternoon
Workshop on interesting cases in anatomic pathology with 14 cases to be discussed. Participants can purchase the complete slide set for Php 1,000 or they can view the slides in a separate viewing area during coffee or lunch break.
This will be moderated by Dr. Francisco V. Narciso, Dr. Jaime T. Zamuco, Dr. Rolando A. Lopez and Dr. Raymundo W. Lo

Registration Fee: Php 1,200 (before April 1, 2005)
Php 1,500 (April 1, 2005 onwards)
Inclusive of educational materials (CD ROM / Handouts) lunch and coffee breaks. Printed handouts P50.00

For Particulars: Please call telephone nos. 725-6716, 727-5423 or 724-1562 and look for Ms. Nenette Idiosca

University of the Philippines Law Center
INSTITUTE OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION
3rd Floor, Bocobo Hall, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1101
Tel. No. 920-55-14 local 208 and 209; Telefax No. 929-71-37
E-Mail Address: ija.claw@upd.edu.ph

MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (MCLE)
2ND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM - SATURDAY COURSE
APRIL-MAY 2005
2nd Floor, Conference Room, Bocobo Hall, U.P. Law Center

DATE	SUBJECT	CREDIT HOURS*	LECTURERS
30 April (AM)	Jurisdiction (*Procedural Law*)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Hilarion L. Aquino
(PM)	Right to Privacy and Information vis-vis the Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money Laundering (*MCLE Prescribed*)	Three (3) (1:30-4:30)	Atty. Celia E. Sandejas
07 May (AM)	Indigenous People's Rights Act (*MCLE Prescribed*)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Prof. Marvic MV Leonen
(PM)	Problem Areas in Legal Ethics (*Legal Ethics*)	Three (3) (1:30-4:30)	Justice Nicolas P. Lapeña
14 May (AM)	Pre Trial and Trial Skills	Four (4) (8:00-12:00)	Justice Lucas P. Bersamin
(PM)	Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy in Appellate Practice	Four (4) (1:00-5:00)	Prof Myrna S. Feliciano
21 May (AM)	Civil, Criminal and Administrative Liabilities of Lawyers (*Legal Ethics*)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Jose L. Sabio, Jr.
(PM)	a) International Law b) International Commercial Arbitration (*ADR*)	Two (2) (1:00-3:00) Three (3) (3:15-6:15)	Prof. Harry L. Roque Dean Custodio O. Parlade
28 May (AM)	Modes of Discovery(*Procedural Law*)	Three (3) (9:00-12:00)	Justice Ricardo P. Galvez
(PM)	a) Overview of Mediation and Arbitration in the Philippines (*ADR*) b) Update in Labor Law (*Substantive Law*)	Two(2) (1:00-3:00) Three (3) (3:15-6:15)	Prof. Alfredo F. Tadiar Dean Antonio H. Abad, Jr.

REGISTRATION FEE: P10,000.00/PACKAGE OR P1,200.00/HALF DAY SESSION; Inclusive of Heavy Snacks; Handouts, MCLE Accredited Certificates, Notarization of Attorney's Compliance Report and Submission thereof to the MCLE Office

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Massive reforestation of Sierra Madre through aerial seeding planned

REAL, Quezon—Seeds of forest trees will be sown in portions of the Sierra Madre ranges in Quezon province using an airplane, an official of the Unesco Commission on Science and Technology said last week.

"Aside from tapping manpower resources in the reforestation of Siera Madre, we will resort to aerial seeding to cover the wide part of the mountain which was left plain by illegal loggers and slash-and-burn farmers," Leonarda Camacho, Unesco commissioner in the Philippines, told members of the Kalao Farmers Association here.

Camacho, who spoke during the distribution of forest tree seeds on April 5, urged the farmers to join the government in the massive reforestation program.

"You're the government front-liner in this forest protection program. If all of us will protect the environment, the environment will also protect us," she added.

She lamented the wide portion of heavily denuded forest that she and other officials saw during their flight to this town aboard a military helicopter.

"That was a terrible sight up there. We should all work together to reverse the situation," she said in an interview.

Camacho led in the ceremonial distribution of forest tree seeds, mostly mahogany and narra, to children of the farmers.

"All our efforts to protect the environment should be for the sake of our children and their future," former Huk leader Luis Taruc, who was with Camacho's group, said in his speech.

Camacho also distributed 100 piglets to members of a farmers' organization in Barangay Magsaysay in Infanta town. The residents are victims of killer typhoons that hit northern Quezon last year.

The Sierra Madre mountain range, which straddles Quezon, Rizal, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Quirino, Aurora, Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela and Cagayan, is considered one of the 17 environmental hot spots in the country.

Legal and illegal logging activities have been going on in the Sierra Madre since the 1950s.

Although the government reduced the number of logging concessions a few years ago, loggers, both legal and illegal, are still active.

Retired Maj. Gen. Victor Corpus, the government's top reforestation officer and head of its anti-illegal logging task force, said completely stopping the practice of slash-and-burn farming in the Sierra Madre was not an easy task.

DELFIN MALLARI JR./PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

LEONARDA Camacho leads in the ceremonial distribution of forest tree seeds to farmers' children in Real, Quezon.

"When I was still [with] the other side (communist movement), we could not just tell the *kaingeros* to stop. Doing so was like telling them not to eat," the former leader of the New People's Army told the farmers.

But he stressed that under the government reforestation program, all stakeholders would enjoy "property rights."

He explained that all participants in the program would serve as "stewards" of the land to be assigned to them.

Marcial Maligat, president of the farmers' association, said his group had long wanted the government to acknowledge them as "stewards" of the land they had been tilling.

"We have long served as protectors of the Sierra Madre," he said.

Camacho said the distribution of forest seeds for manual planting was part of the massive reforestation activities being initiated by her group that included Corpus, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Department of National Defense.

Aside from Corpus and Taruc, Camacho arrived in Real with Neri and noted Filipino inventor and environmentalist Gonzalo Catan Jr.

The seedlings were donated by Cesar Favia and the La Salle Alumni Association, Camacho said. They have all passed modern biological processes in Catan's Mapecon plant in Alaminos, Laguna to ensure 100-percent growth.

"All the seeds are safe to the environment. They are the natural way of organic farming," Catan said.

A Department of Agriculture official pledged to distribute at least 10 carabaos and 20 goats to the group this week.

Camacho said her group was setting up bamboo nurseries all over the country with the support of local government officials, non-government and women's groups.

She said they would soon start bamboo planting along Lake Caliraya in Laguna.

Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

Education Management Program
Strengthening the foundation for today's educators.

Inspired by AIM's renaissance spirit and commitment to excellence in management education and to nation building through quality education in Asia; the Education Management Program invites top executives and managers of both public and private educational institutions: owners, presidents, deans, principals, and administrators for the following courses:

Strategic Positioning for Education Leaders (SPEL) *April 18 - 22, 2005*
This course is offered to the top executives, managers and administrators of both public and private educational institutions. The course will enable participants to:
1. Understand and appreciate the value of positioning their schools for greater impact, service excellence and sustainability.
2. Acquire the tools relevant for the strategic planning process.
3. Match human resource with mission and business strategy.
4. Foster a creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial spirit in education.
5. Heighten awareness and appreciation for technology in the service of 21st century education.

Transformational Processes for Learning Managers (TPLM) *May 9 - 13, 2005*
This course is open to teachers, supervisors, academic coordinators, subject area heads, faculty development coordinators, HRD practitioners and corporate trainors. Participants will learn to:
1. Understand and appreciate changing paradigms in learning management.
2. Appreciate the value of creating genuine learning spaces "for the 21st century".
3. Acquire conceptual and practical tools for designing and managing learning systems.
4. Experience various innovative learning methodologies based on a whole brain learning approach and process oriented frameworks.
5. Appreciate the role of information technology in the new landscape of learning.
6. Apply newly learned knowledge, skills and attitudes based on personal reaction and interaction with mentors.

Instructional Design (Blended Technology: Hands-On and On-line) *May 23 - 25, 2005*
This course is open to teachers, supervisors, academic coordinators and subject area heads. Utilizing blended learning and hands-on applications, it aims to:
1. Provide an overview of Instructional System Design (ISD).
2. Guide participants through the development of content and appropriate media selection.
3. Equip participants with skills and appreciation of the process and value of formative and summative evaluation.
4. Coach the participants through the development of an actual ID project.

For further details contact:
Yam dela Cruz Tel. no.: (632) 892-4011 to 25 loc. 371
Telefax: (632) 867-2114 / 893-2031
E-mail: excell@dataserve.aim.edu.ph
mdelacruz@mail.aim.edu.ph

EQUIS ACCREDITED
ACCREDITED AACSB INTERNATIONAL

Website: http://www.aim.edu.ph

ALTERNATIVE LONG-TERM TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASES, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND HIGH CHOLESTEROL

Simvastatin
Losartan
Losartan+HCTZ
Nifedipine
Diltiazem
Imidapril
Imidapril+HCTZ
Atenolol

PHARMACOECONOMICS
A Healthy Idea
is
B.A.S.I.C.
Bioequivalence & Affordability Sustain Intervention & Compliance

Ask your doctor about it.

* These drugs are classified by BFAD as prescription drugs and may be bought only with a doctor's prescription.

CALL Free of Charge: 1-800-10-6-HEALTH (432584) • Direct Line: 637-4890

NOTICE OF 30-HOUR WATER SERVICE INTERRUPTION IN PARTS OF MANILA AND QUEZON CITY

Maynilad Water Services Inc. has scheduled a 30-hour water service interruption in parts of Manila and Quezon Cities from 10 p.m., Thursday, April 14 to 4 a.m., Saturday, April 16, 2005.

The water service interruption is due to the looping of a 900mm S.P. Mainline on the existing 900mm CIP Mainline along Legarda Fly-Over Approach near corner Nagtahan, Sampaloc, Manila; insertion of a 1,050mm Butterfly Valve on the existing 1,050mm CIP Mainline along Ramon Magsaysay Blvd. corner Mangga St., Sta. Mesa, Manila; insertion of a 650mm Butterfly Valve on the existing 650mm CIP Mainline along Carlos Palanca St. corner Globo de Oro St., Quiapo, Manila; and replacement of a defective actuator on the existing 1,350mm Butterfly Valve along Sobriedad St. corner Batanes St., Quezon City.

The project is meant to improve the water supply in the area.

The following areas will have no water during the service interruption:

Manila: Whole Sta. Mesa area, including Bacood area; Sampaloc area, bounded by G. Tuazon, Earnshaw, Legarda, and R. Magsaysay; whole San Miguel area, including Malacañang; whole Quiapo area; University Belt area; Sta. Cruz area, bounded by Quezon Blvd., Mayhaligue, Jose Abad Santos, C.M. Recto, Estero de Magdalena, and Pasig River; Balic-Balic area; Pandacan; and Paco.

Quezon City: Barangays Don Manuel, Doña Aurora, San Isidro, Sto. Niño, Santol and Doña Imelda.

Areas that will have low pressure to no water, on the other hand, include portions of Binondo, including the area bounded by C.M. Recto, Reina Regente, Estero del Binondo, and Pasig River; and portions of Sta. Cruz.

In view of the water service interruption, affected customers are advised to store water good for 30 hours. They may check with Maynilad Hotline 1626, the nearest branch office, or their barangay chairman for the schedule of water rationing in their respective areas.

Maraming salamat po sa inyong pang-unawa.

MAYNILAD WATER SERVICES, INC.
Todo ~ Buhos ang Serbisyo sa Pilipino!

For inquiries: Please call our 24-Hour Hotline
1626
or text us through
SMART 7001626.

Food-for-work program brings back self-help among villagers

SAUDI AMPATUAN, Maguindanao—Officials implementing the government's Food-for-work program see the Filipinos' "*bayanihan*" (self-help) tradition going back to this province, which has suffered from decades of armed skirmishes.

Provincial social welfare officer Elsie Amil said the municipal government had encouraged 325 beneficiaries of President Macapagal-Arroyo's Food-for-work program to join hands for community endeavors.

The projects include construction of waiting sheds made of indigenous materials, fish cage-making for inland fishing, and building of the new town hall.

Bayanihan , a Filipino practice of villagers helping each other, is also common among Maguindanaoan folk.

Mayor Saudi Ampatuan Jr. said the program beneficiaries were also taught cooperative supervision and management of the projects to attain food sufficiency.

Neighborhood security cooperation was also encouraged for protection against criminals.

Last week, hundreds of beneficiary residents trooped to the unfinished municipal hall for a package of rice, viand and other preserved food stuff. Each package contained 25 kilograms of well-milled rice and smaller packs of dried fish, canned sardines, noodles, sugar, coffee, eggs and vegetable oil.

"These [goods] are not given absolutely for free. Beneficiaries in each municipality are expected to come up with a consensus on community projects and are taught how to supervise and maintain such projects," said social worker Barbara Guialil.

Ampatuan said many of the residents volunteered services for the construction of the town hall.

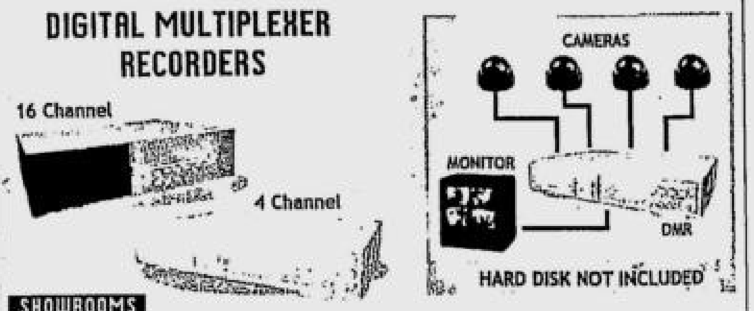
They also offered to help build a grains processing facility in the rice and corn producing barangay of Kitango.

Though relatively sufficient in infrastructure facilities, Maguindanao is ranked among the country's "Club of 20" poor provinces. The province has 10,000 beneficiaries of the food-for-work program that the Office of the President is implementing under the government's Social Reform Agenda.

The residents, long affected by wars, said they hoped that a spring water development project would soon be realized, but some problems involving claims of territorial control by a few dissidents have hampered the project, Ampatuan said. *Nash Maulana, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

TUITION FEE LOAN
Avoid the rush, get your credit line approved now before school enrollment. APPLY NOW!!!
Call:
910-8215,910-8216
634-4236,631-1678
Text:
(0917) 500 EDUC 3382
(0917) 700 LOAN 5626
Log on to: http//www.globaldominionfinance.com
Unit 3107 Jollibee Plaza Condominium,
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City, Philippines
Basic Requirements:
1. One (1) pc. 2X2 picture
2. Two (2) valid ID's
3. Proof of Billing
4. Proof of Income
(i.e. Employed, Self-employed, OFW, Seaman, Allottee, etc.)
* Additional documents may be required upon credit review
OTHER LOAN PRODUCTS: Car Loan, Beauty Loan, Doctor's Loan, OFW-Allottee Loan, Business Loan, Salary Loan, Seaman's Loan, Motorcycle, Corporate Loan, Taxi, PUV Loan, PUJ Loan, Truck Loan, Real Estate, Computer Loan

ROVER SYSTEMS
Electronic Security Systems
CCTV DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDERS
REPLACE YOUR MULTIPLEXER + TIME-LAPSE VCR
DIGITAL MULTIPLEXER RECORDERS



SHOWROOMS
ROVER SYSTEMS (PASIG)
Stall 8-9 MC Home Depot, Inc.
168 Ortigas Ave., cor. Meralco Ave.,
Pasig City
Tel No.: 638-3859, Telefax: 638-3860
ROVER SYSTEMS (MAKATI)
Stall 4-8 MC Home Builder's Depot
Edsa cor. Pasong Tamo,
Makati City
Tel No.: 840-5623, Telefax: 840-3367
ROVER SYSTEMS (FORT BONIFACIO)
CS#217a -219 MC Home Depot
32nd St., Bonifacio Blvd, Global City,
Taguig
Tel No.: 815-4929, Telefax: 815-4906
MAIN OFFICE
Tel. No.:(632)723-7959 (T. L.) • Cel No.:0917-8364491 • E-mail: info@fairetech.com

Where you find the best.

JOB Market ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

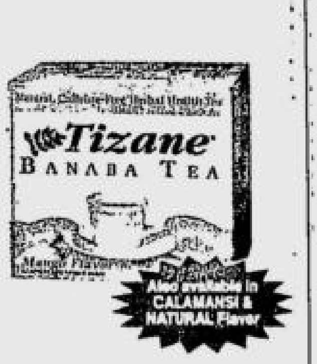
CAN'T STAND BITTER HERBS? Drink...
Tizane®
BANABA TEA
The Better-Tasting Herbal HealthTea

Tizane Banaba Tea is made from banaba leaves, traditionally known for its health benefits on people suffering from diarrhea to diabetes mellitus. Banaba leaves contain Colosolic acid, a compound that has been studied by American and Japanese researchers for its blood sugar lowering property.

These leaves are processed by Pascual Laboratories, Inc. that operates a WHO cGMP compliant and ISO 9001:2000 Certified Phamaceutical Plant.

Tizane Banaba Tea is caffeine-free and sugar-free.

Caution:
Not a replacement for anti-diabetic medicine.

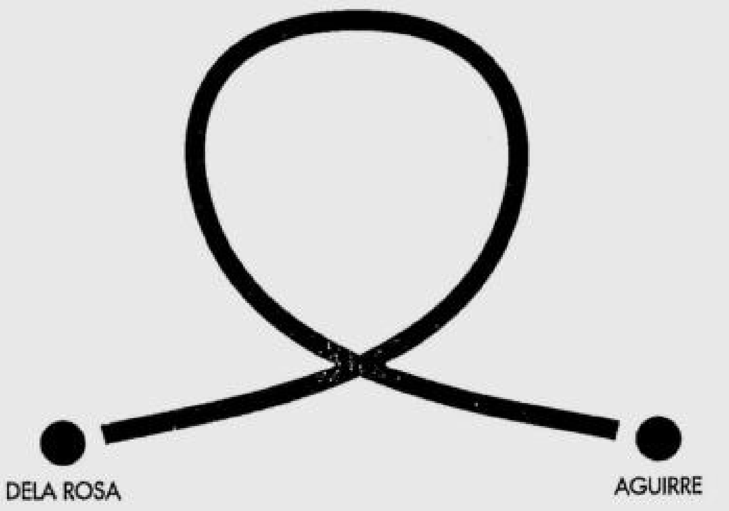


Available at: mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide.
For inquiries, please call Altermed Hotline: 411-9907
Manufactured by
Pascual Laboratories, Inc.

A thought from a non-reader.
A mind on the blink can be a real turn-off. If you need a bit of stimulation, try reading for a change. Just a thought.
Read more. Be more.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SEIKO
RP's First Choice In Watches
Reader's Digest Philippines SUPERBRAND 2004 Platinum
IT'S NOT YOUR DRIVING.
IT'S NOT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
IT'S NOT YOUR DVDs.

IT'S YOUR WATCH THAT
TELLS MOST ABOUT WHO YOU ARE.
ARCTURA
KINETIC
AUTO RELAY
POWERED BY THE MOVEMENT OF YOUR BODY.
OFF THE WRIST, IT ENTERS A SLEEP STATE UP TO FOUR YEARS.
BACK ON THE WRIST, IT RESETS ITSELF TO EXACT TIME.
FREE
Come visit our counters for more varieties of SEIKO Auto Relay.
You can get a SEIKO METAL BALL PEN with every purchase biginning April 10, 2005 while stocks lasts.
www.sscl.com.ph
Always ask for a warranty card
FREE CHECK-UP
Seiko Service Center Exclusive quality service w/ longest warranty
THE BEST SERVICE FOR SEIKO & ALBA WATCHES AT THESE SEIKO SERVICE CENTERS
• MAIN LABS.: 2310 Majalco Bldg., Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City Tel. (632) 886-6771 to 72 • MAKATI : G 72 Glorietta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City Tel.(632) 892-8302 • MANILA : 1990 NICFUR Bldg., cor Taft & Quirino Ave., Malate, Mla. Tel. (632) 523-8676 • LAS PIÑAS : SM Southmall Alabang-Zapote Rd., ALMANZA, Las Piñas City Tel. (632) 806-6553 • QUEZON CITY : # 4 Lower Ground Floor, New Farmer's Plaza, Araneta Center Cubao, Q. C. Tel. (632) 913-1908 • WB 206 SM City, North Ave., cor. EDSA Q. C. Tel. (632) 929-3097 • CAVITE : 008 SM City Bacoor, Tirona cor. Emilio Aguinaldo Hi-Way, Bacoor, Cavite Tel.(046) 970-4976 • CEBU : Lower Grd. Flr., SM City North Reclamation Area, Cebu City Tel : (032) 232-0782 • J. Rodriguez Bldg., Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City Tel.(032) 253-6936



The Enchanted Kingdom Sales Office has moved to: G/F Unit 1B, Biltmore Condominium, 102 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Telephone Numbers: (632) 830-2111 to 17 and Fax Number; (632) 812-7118.

LEGASPI VILLAGE
The Magic is now here!
GAMBOA
SORIA
AGUIRRE
RASIERRA
GALLARDO
DELA ROSA
LEGASPI
GREENBELT SQUARE
GREENBELT PARK
10 Years
Enchanted Kingdom
Feel the Magic!

Elegant design in the spirit of today's fashion
25th Anniversary
ALBA
YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS
Available at any SEIKO Service Center and authorized Dealers nationwide

From SEIKO WATCH CORPORATION

Davao cop chief says he was not relieved for payola

MATI, Davao Oriental—The police chief of this town was relieved from his post, more than a week after a confessed illegal gambling operator accused him of receiving weekly payola from her.

But Chief Insp. Jose Catimbang denied that his relief stemmed from the allegation.

"I am being transferred from my post not because of (Edna) Pullan's exposé, which [consists of] … lies, but [because this is part of a] routine. Town police chiefs come and go," Catimbang said.

"I am now consulting my lawyer. What Pullan had said against me is libelous," he added.

The woman earlier alleged that Catimbang and Senior Supt. Bienvenido Latag, the provincial police chief, were getting weekly payola from her after her daughter and sister-in-law were arrested by police for engaging in "Last Two," an illegal numbers game that is very popular in Mindanao and the Visayas.

But over the weekend, Pullan said she made a mistake in naming Lagat. "I want to correct my mistake. I was so wrong when I included Latag in my exposé. Latag is an innocent man," she said.

Catimbang said Pullan "fabricated" the story because of the arrests.

Pullan claimed that a man who introduced himself as Major Garcia "collected the weekly payola from me and has made me believe that the payola was intended for Latag."

Another man, whom she identified as Bebot Castillo, also made her believe that the payola was intended for Catimbang, she said.

"I talked with Latag after my exposé and I am convinced that he is innocent. I apologized to him for my mistake. Latag has never approached me personally to ask for money. He is innocent," Pullan insisted.

Asked if she also planned to clear Catimbang, Pullan said: "What is important to me is for the name of Latag to be cleared." *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

'Balikatan' starts in Basilan

ZAMBOANGA CITY—At least 28 US-military experts will return to Basilan to train 150 Filipino soldiers as part of the joint military exercises Balance Piston OS-6.

US Army Maj. Robert Ball, mission commander of Balance Piston OS-6, said the training would be conducted in Maluso and Lamitan towns starting today.

Ball also led the 25-member team of American trainers for the joint exercises in that province in 2002 and 2003.

"It's a good thing to go back to Basilan and see how the island is progressing," he said.

The US government has allotted $140,000 or P7.56 million for the exercise which will end on May 5, Ball said.

"We will train the Filipino soldiers on marksmanship, small unit tactical operation and comprehensive combat life savers' action," he said.

But he said the training was different from the back-to-basic approaches in military tactics training that was held in Carmen town in North Cotabato.

Col. Domingo Tutaan, the Southern Command's chief of staff, said the 32nd and 55th infantry battalions in Basilan, that will be part of the Balance Piston OS-6, had been trained under the Light Infantry Battalion Program held in Malagutay two years ago.

"So it's more of an advanced training to our units there," Tutaan said.

Aside from the military training, residents of Lamitan and Maluso will benefit from the exercises as American doctors and other groups will conduct medical and dental services, he said. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

RP-US skyjump shows AFP's old gadgets

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Old parachutes, worn-out sky jumpsuits, tattered jumpsuit covers and helmets without inner protective foam, except for some strips of packaging tape to hold the inner plastic lining.

These were some of the Philippine's airborne paratroopers' outdated equipment when they joined the RP-US military friendship jump last week, a military tradition conducted alongside with allied forces.

Capt. Dante Bermillo, one of the two airborne officers who joined the 30 Filipino soldiers in the jump, admitted that their counterparts were better equipped in skyjumping gadgets than those of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

"They have comfortable equipment, much safer and they are equipped with altimeter, a special type of watch that determines the altitude, wind direction and targeted drop zones," Bermillo said.

Their helmets are designed for heavy fall with thick inner foam to avoid head injuries, Bermillo added.

With the absence of altimeter gadget, Bermillo said paratroopers were vulnerable to wind-dragging accidents and they ended up with bruises and skin rashes after the exercise.

The traditional friendship jump was held recently in Corregidor and Los Baños, Laguna, using the US Airforce C130 aircraft.

Barge with ₱3-M chromite cargo escapes from gov't-owned port

MATI, Davao Oriental—Officials of Governor Generoso town are fuming after a cargo vessel loaded with P3.3 million worth of chromite earlier seized slipped at dawn of Thursday from a government-owned wharf.

On Sunday, police and officials of Gov. Generoso led by Mayor Jerry dela Cerna ordered the seizure of a barge owned by Davao Loyalty Mining Corp. for operating without permits.

The China-bound barge was loaded with 1,200 metric tons of chromite when seized by authorities.

But on Thursday, it was able to slip away, said Vice Mayor Virgilio Cielo.

"The three policemen guarding the vessel were unable to stop it. We will dig deeper into the incident," Cielo said.

An official of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau defended the mining firm's activities.

Ed Arreza, mining operations chief of the MGB in Southern Mindanao, said the company had a small-scale mining permit from the governor's office.

Local officials insisted that the company should also get approval from the municipal government before operating. *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Free 8 Books for MSA SAT, College and H.S.
Entrance Tests Reviewees
for UP, ATENEO, De La SALLE, UST

Your Education.
Your Future!

Academic Advancement Programs

Kinder and Preparatory
• Math • Writing • Reading
Grade School
• English • Reading
• Math • Science
MSA Mental Math
with Problem Solving Techniques
High School
• English • Science • Algebra
• Geometry • Trigdnometry
College
• Algebra • Trigonometry • Calculus
English Enhancement
Grammar • Reading Comprehension

Professional Levels
TSE • IELTS • TOEFL •Civil Service • CSEE

MSA
Register now!!!
315 Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
G/F Prince David Condo. Katipunan Ave., Loyola Hts.
925-7544 ♦ 929-9145
435-6062 ♦ 925-4602

SM Fairview	Makati	Alabang	Cainta	Antipolo	Cebu
SM Mall Novaliches Quezon City	101 Esteban cor Dela Rosa, Legaspi Village	G/F South Center Tower, Madrigal Business Park	Franco St., Vista Verde Imelda Avenue	24 Irwin Street, Filinvest Homes East Marcos Highway	Rivergate Complex - 49-A Maxilom Ave.,
935-0011 935-0012	815-1307 813-0943	850-6550 850-6551	646-8243	646-8245	(032) 255-2191 255-2193

Be a MILLIONAIRE in 9 DAYS

JOIN the Department of Tourism's ISLAND PARADISE ADVENTURE RACE

Rev Up Your Summer!
Explore Unfamiliar Sights and Experience the Thrills of Adventure Sports Tourism.

The Island Paradise Adventure Race is an amazing 9-day car rally through 8 destinations in Luzon starting **May 7** through **May 15** based on an "On time. All the time" system.

Featuring 35 teams, each team shall be composed of 3 persons, one of whom will be required to compete in adventure sports and tourism activities at the control points and segment stops. At the end of each day, racers, visitors, and race spectators can revel at the Pit Stop in a nightly celebration of festivals, concerts and trade exhibits.

Cash Prizes at stake: P1 Million, P300,000 and P100,000 for the top 3 winners including trophies, awards and recognition.

The contest is open to the public. All participants must be licensed, with auto insurance and driving "street legal" vehicles.
Registration of participants ends **April 22, 2005.**

For registration, requirements and other information, call the **Department of Tourism**, 523-9031 / 536-3153 / 524-2251,
8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays
and look for *Anabelle* or *Faye* or call the DOT Regional Office in your area.

PHILIPPINE CONVENTION & VISITORS CORPORATION

A Project of the DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM
in cooperation with:
Local Government Units • Automobile Association Philippines • X-Events Unlimited • CSP Corp. • Island Caravan Tour Consortium

MEDIAWISE COMMUNICATIONS

4 Subic fishermen saved near Kalayaan

From page A1

57-foot banca MB Emely II at 6:40 a.m. by the Philippine Navy ship BRP Mariano Alvarez.

"They have been given food and water and we have been informed that they are in stable condition now," said Lt. Armand Balilo, spokesperson of the Philippine Coast Guard.

A Coast Guard statement identified them as Pedro Isidro, 26; Ronald Mercado, 25; Jimmy Francis Cyres, 27, and Zaldy Papatani, 49.

They survived by drinking water from the radiator of the banca's engine and later, their own urine. They were able to catch a few squids despite their weakened condition.

Their banca was found 275 nautical miles southwest of Subic, or 171 nautical miles from Piedras Island, which is in the northern part of the Kalayaan Islands.

It was first spotted at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday by a Philippine Coast Guard plane, which then relayed the information for verification to a US P3-Orion aircraft, said Balilo.

The P3-Orion, a long-range, antisubmarine aircraft that Sen. Richard Gordon had requested to help in the search, pinpointed the fishermen's exact location at 5 p.m. the same day and alerted Philippine authorities.

Balilo said the fishermen were treated aboard the Navy ship and were expected to arrive in Manila today.

Throughout their ordeal, the men were in contact with authorities and with their employer, Zaldy Chua, through the banca's high-frequency radio set.

They were not rescued immediately, however, because they could not give their exact location.

The fishermen also failed to spot any land mass in the vicinity, fueling fears from authorities that they might have drifted into international waters.

The men left Subic on March 22 to fish in the Scarborough Shoal area. They were reported missing to the Coast Guard on March 26 after they failed to return.

Chua said he was informed by the men that they got lost while exploring the shoal. They also ran out of fuel, he was told.

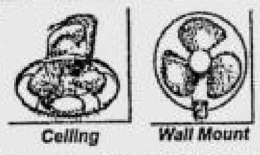
In a statement, Gordon commended the Coast Guard "for exerting all efforts to locate and save the fishermen and thanked the US government for providing support which led to the successful rescue.

"We thank the US Pacific Command for aiding the Philippine Navy by immediately responding to our request for assistance. It demonstrates the longstanding friendship and cooperation between the Philippines and the US government," Gordon said.

He also acknowledged the media, particularly dzRH, for brining the incident to his attention. "The media is a partner of the government in public service, not just in combating crime and corruption but also in emergency situations like this," Gordon said.

MIST FAN COOLING SYSTEMS
Convert your existing Fan into an Evaporative Cooling System
Instant temperature reduction up to 40°F!

Truly Aircondition-like feeling!



Perfect for:
Gymnasiums • Factories • Greenhouse • Foundries • Outdoor Retails • Warehouse • Veranda • Sports Events • Restaurants • Livestocks • Manufacturing Plants • Church • Clubhouse • Garden Parties • Family Gatherings, etc.

For inquiries & free estimates, call now!
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL
Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996
Telefax: 639-1077 Tel. No: 639-1657
SALES / RENTALS / DESIGNS / INSTALLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE

Everything On Sticks...

Even Your Own Business.

Sam's-Everything on Sticks is the fastest growing franchise in the country today. We brought sidewalk selling to the highest level, introducing the concept of selling everything on sticks. Sam's was developed in order to help Filipinos achieve the "Filipino Dream" of one day owning their own successful business.

Your Formula for Success
It's everything on sticks • multi-awarded franchise
10K downpayment • easy-to-pay & flexible payment terms
wide variety of food choices • stylish & modern foodcart

The fastest growing multi-awarded franchise.

Sam's EVERYTHING ON STICKS

Franchise Hotline: 4535239 to 40

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!
OFF THE PRESS!

COMPENDIUM OF LAWS ON TAXATION

By: Rodello T. Dascil, Esq., MNSA
Professor of Law and Bar Reviewer

A Comprehensive and Updated Book on Taxation that Contains the following:

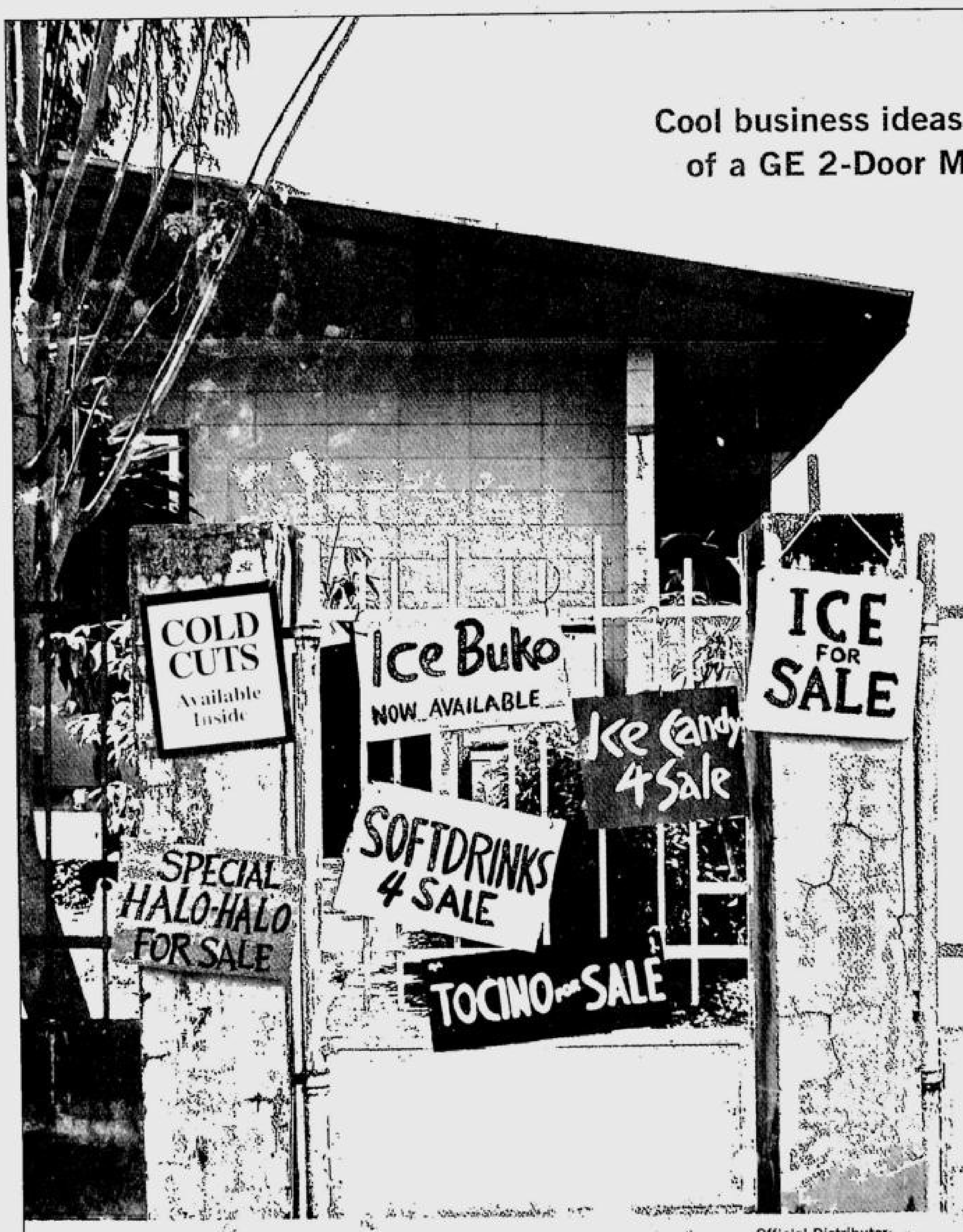
- Constitutional Provisions on Taxation
- National Internal Revenue Code
- Tariff and Customs Code
- Local and Real Property Taxation
- Expanded Court of Tax Appeals and Its 2004 Rules of Procedure

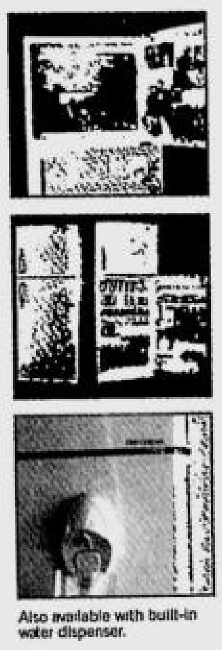
The book includes the latest laws passed by Congress on Taxation as of March 2005 including the latest R.A. Nos. 9334 and 9335, the Excise Tax on Wines and Cigarettes and the Lateral Attrition Law.

Available at:
REX BOOK STORE, INC.

RECTO 1977 C. M. Recto Ave., Samp., Mla. – 735-5527/735-5534; MORAYTA 856 Nicanor Reyes, Sr., St., Samp., Mla. – 736-0567/735-1364/736-4191; SHAW Facilities Center Bldg., 548 Shaw Blvd., Mand., City – 531-1306/531-1339; MAKATI Unit UG-2 Star Centrum Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City – 893-3744/818-5363; ROCKWELL 1st Floor Ateneo Professional School, Rockwell Center, Bel-Air Makati City – 729-2015; CUBAO Unit A, Ground Floor Rustan's Superstore Bldg., Cubao, Quezon City – 911-1070; CAVITE Lot 6, Blk. 5, Cityview IV, Brgy. Tanauan, Tanza, Cavite – 0918-9119260; PAMPANGA 1906 Cecile Bldg., Mac-Arthur Hi-way, Balibago, Angeles City – (045) 892-1721; ILOILO 75 Brgy. San Isidro Lopez-Jaena, Jaro, Iloilo City – (033) 329-0332/329-0336; CEBU 11 Sanciangko St., Cebu City – (032) 254-6773/254-6774/254-6466; LEGASPI Magallanes cor. Alonzo St., Legaspi City, Albay – (052) 820-2270; PANGASINAN Zone 6, Pinmaludpod, Urdaneta, Pangasinan – (075) 568-3975; GENERAL SANTOS Aparente St., Dadiangas Heights General Santos City – (083) 554-7102; CAGAYAN DE ORO J. Seriña St., cor. Vamenta Blvd., Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City (088) 858-6775; DAVAO 156 C.M. Recto St., Davao City – (082) 225-3167/221-7840/221-0272; CABANATUAN CITY Duran Bldg., del Pilar Ext. (crossing) Sangitan East, Cabanatuan City – (044) 600-5684; TACLOBAN Brgy. 79 Marasbaras, Tacloban City Leyte – (053) 323-8976; QUEZON CITY LEMAD 2nd Floor, 86 P. Florentino St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Q.C. – 411-2752/448-7497

Cool business ideas. FREE with every purchase of a GE 2-Door Manual Defrost Refrigerator.



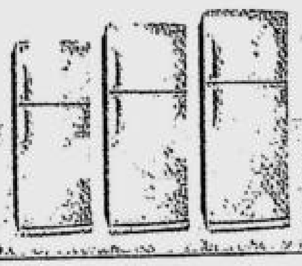


Also available with built-in water dispenser.

With it's powerful freezing capacity, the GE 2-Door Manual Defrost Refrigerator makes it easy to start a business right out of your home. Sell frozen meats, fish, or chicken. Corner the neighborhood ice candy market. Be the village halo-halo tycoon. With its ability to reach temperatures as low as *-31, the GE 2-Door Manual Defrost isn't just another refrigerator. It's a really cool business partner.

GE Appliances
geappliances-philippines.com

GE imagination at work

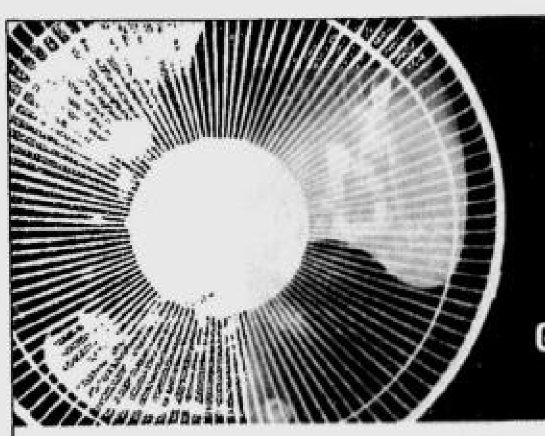


2-Door Manual Defrost Refs available in 7 cu. ft., 10 cu. ft. & 13 cu. ft.

CALL NOW (02) 631-8282 Shangri-La, (02) 633-9953 Megamall, (02) 687-1566 Cybermall-Eastwood, (02) 815-8875 MC Home Depot-Fort Bonifacio, (02) 887-0075 Glorietta 4.
Available at leading appliance stores nationwide.

Official Distributor: CYA Industries Incorporated

* With a 10 kg. load of ice water tested in a GMV130BANR for 1 day.
* Frequent opening of door/s as well as amount and type of load may affect the unit's performance.
* At thermostat setting #7.



FANTASTIC!

Get a free stand fan worth ₱1,495.00 from GE with every purchase of any of the selected GE appliances. Promo valid until May 31, 2005 only.

Offer applies to purchase of any of the following selected GE appliances: window type airconditioners, single-door refs, 2- door direct cool refs, asian topmount, stainless steel topmount and bottom mount refs, clean steel topmount and chest freezers. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1055 Series of 2005.

Agta lass makes Sierra Madre history

From page A1

first member of the Agta tribal community in the northern Sierra Madre region to join—and win—a beauty pageant.

Mayor Natividad Bernardo hailed her victory as probably the single biggest achievement of an Agta from this municipality, known as the "last stand of the late Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo."

According to history books, Aguinaldo arrived in Palanan on Sept. 6, 1900, shortly after he became President of the First Philippine Republic. But on March 23, 1901, he was captured by US troops led by Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston.

Seventy-one years later, this town again made history with the infamous "MV Karagatan" incident, which local folk would rather forget. According to town hall records, on July 5, 1972, "it was in Digoyo Point where elements of the New People's Army landed thousands of high-powered arms and other armaments."

This is why "we'll always be proud of events like the annual Sabutan festival aimed at promoting local eco-tourism," Bernardo told the Inquirer.

"When Juliet won, it made the pageant extra special," the mayor said, noting the girl's history-making turn.

Clueless

Before Chavez was convinced by Barangay Alomanay folk to join the contest, she was clueless about beauty pageants, said Eric Reyes, pageant director.

"What surprised us was that from zero knowledge at rehearsals, she went to performance level midway during the pageant then just shone all throughout the finals. It was quite impressive," Reyes said.

He recalled that "during the parade and pre-pageant activities, Juliet was clearly the most popular candidate. She stood out. She obviously got along well with her fellow candidates because they voted her Miss Friendship."

Agta population

According to Chavez's mother Araceli, it was heartwarming to see both Agta tribal members and local residents cheering for her daughter. Her feat, she pointed out, boosted the pride of her family and hopefully, the rest of the 880-plus Agta community here.

Sitio Dipagsanghan in Barangay Didian hosts the biggest number of Agtas at 97, according to Reynante de Vera of the municipal planning and development office.

More than 80 are based in Sitio Dibungco (Barangay Marikit), while 75 have put up homes in Kanaipang (Barangay Didadungan).

The rest, including a family of three in Sitio Diguyo, also in Didadungan, are scattered in six other barrios of Palanan.

According to Mayor Bernardo, fondly called *ninang* (godmother) by the Agtas, health services are regularly provided to the indigenous community, a claim confirmed by Agta leaders, like Bawe Donato.

Town records showed that the Agta, "also known as Dumagat, had already settled in the area long before Franciscan missionaries led by Fr. Blas Polomino came here in 1609."

According to the 2004 Municipal Profile, Palanan was founded "sometime in 1588."

"From 1609 to 1900, there was no recorded formal political governance here in Palanan. It is presumed that the one that took place was that of the Franciscans which was religion-based in general, forming mostly the social institutions in the municipality," the records stated.

Formal governance supposedly started with Aguinaldo's arrival in 1900.

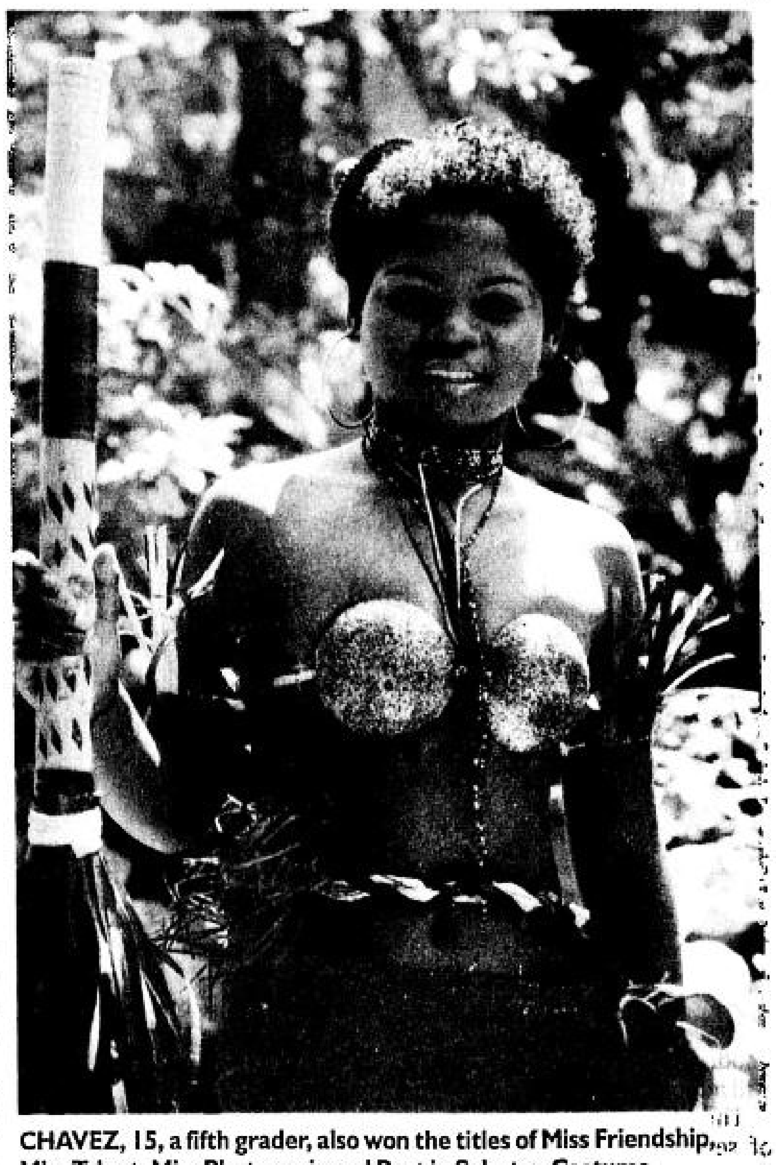
"The second President to set foot on Palanan soil was Diosdado Macapagal when he inaugurated the Aguinaldo marker on June 12, 1962, during the Independence Day celebration," the town records said.

Original inhabitants

History books call the Agtas the "original inhabitants" of Palanan.

The early Agtas resided "within the interior mountain valleys and coastal foothills and the watersheds of the Sierra Madre."

Exploring a "variety of environments, they hunt wild pigs, deer and smaller animals, and gather wild yams and fruits from the humid tropical forests. They also plant on a small scale rice, corn, sweet potato, cassava, bananas and pineapple."



CHAVEZ, 15, a fifth grader, also won the titles of Miss Friendship, Miss Talent, Miss Photogenic and Best in Sabutan Costume.

Agtas or Dumagats—from the term *tabing-dagat* (by the sea)—are natives who "stay along the seashore where they build small huts for shelter and do some fishing activities."

Today, they are still among the poorest of the poor in this third-class municipality (annual income: P21 million-P27 million).

Most of them still live in one-room huts made of wood, bamboo and palm leaves.

Modern clothes

Unlike in the past, only a few Agtas still wear the traditional *baeg* (g-string for men) and the *saya* or *tapis* (long skirt for women). Instead, many wear modern clothes.

But necklaces called the *manek* and the *inikat* are still worn by single and married women. Men, on the other hand, still wear bracelets and armbands called the *pinanas* and the *biskal*, which are made of the dried furry skin of either deer or wild boar.

According to a 1996 study by an Isabela university, the Agtas were regarded as a "low-class group of people who lack leadership skills" and whose life "concentrated around the satisfaction of their basic needs."

The Agtas, the study said, had "difficulty attending formal education due to their nonpermanent residence and the long distance of most public schools from their homes. Parents utilize the time of their children by helping them earn a living."

Nonformal education

The majority of the Agtas are illiterate. Formal education of children started only in the early 1990s.

According to Bernardo, the local government has been "strongly encouraging" young Agtas to attend the town's 17 primary schools, of which only 10 offer complete elementary education.

Nonformal education is being provided by nongovernmental organizations and Born-Again Christian groups, such as the Christian Missions for the Unreached (CMU) based in the Agta village in Dibungco since 1993.

The religious group is "serving 29 or so adults in a literacy program, aimed at allowing them to read the Bible," said CMU leaders Arnold and Julie Alvarez.

Romeo Quilang, president of the Isabela State University (ISU), said they were looking forward to enrolling Agtas in the university's 10th campus, set to be put up here shortly in coordination with the municipal government.

"We're bringing the university to the people, including members of indigenous communities. We'll reach out to them," Quilang said.

To be a teacher

Quilang, who headed the pageant's seven-member board of judges, recalled having challenged Chavez "to be the first Agta to finish a college course. When we danced during the pre-pageant ball, she told me she wanted to finish a degree."

In her pageant bio data, Chavez had written "becoming a teacher" was her ambition.

Pageant judge Cinderella Amurao-Medina, sociocultural affairs director of the Echague-based ISU, observed it was "evident that discrimination against indigenous groups like the Agta has become a thing of the past," at least in this part of the Cagayan Valley.

Another judge, Dr. Florfina Cabansag, a former ISU official, agreed.

Aaron Espiritu, who represented National Commission on Culture and the Arts executive director Cecile Guidote-Alvarez at the festival, was happy to see members of indigenous groups like the Agta being treated as equals, "not second-class citizens" by the locals.

Welcome development

Alvarez, later in a brief phone conversation, hailed this as a "welcome development," just like the Agtas' active participation in the Sabutan festival.

"I hope they would continue making a difference by being active in the community," said the NCCA head, who vowed to help the tribe.

Earlier in a statement, Alvarez said the commission "hopes to draw attention to its new component thrust to apply culture in line with the antipoverty program of President Macapagal-Arroyo."

This month, the NCCA aims to "raise consciousness and appreciation for our indigenous communities, help preserve their traditions as a way of fleshing out the government's new creative economics program for social transformation," the statement said.

It "will help promote indigenous cultural industries by identifying, strengthening the arts, crafts and skills of the communities and assisting them with a micro-lending facility, developing cultural cooperatives, marketing products and transmitting values education," Alvarez said.

Cultural care-giving

"This complements the new Kalahi cultural care-giving program where Isabela is a satellite base for Northern Luzon," she said.

Like Alvarez and Bernardo, Isabela Gov. Ma. Gracia Cielo Padaca promised to champion the cause of the province's indigenous groups. She flew here on the second day of the festivities which featured, among other things, Agta traditional songs and dances.

"When I ran for governor my battle cry was *Kalayaan ng Isabela* (Freedom for Isabela). Now, it's *Bagong Kultura* (New Culture)," including the outlook toward tribal communities, Padaca said in an interview.

Symbolic weave

Her message to Palanan folk: "The lowly *sabutan* transformed into beautiful and patterned and woven products is symbolic of the kind of transformation your community should undergo ... Your Sabutan Festival is a call and a challenge for every member of the community to take up active participation in the promotion of unity and harmony through this local product."

There is no direct road access to Palanan. It can only be reached by a 30-minute plane ride from Cauayan City, a six-to-seven-hour boat ride from Aurora province in the south, or a three-to-five-day trek from the neighboring town of San Mariano.

YOUR LIFE IS ON THE LINE!
MEDITEC DIGITAL BLOOD PRESSURE MONITORS
- Memory Function (1 Memory)
- Inflation by Squeeze Bulb
- Compact Design
- Auto Power off

MD-250 DIGITAL BP MONITOR

- Fuzzy logic for gentler inflation
- Memory Function (8 Memory)
- One touch start/inflation
- Easy-to-Read Monitor
- Auto-Power off

MD-650 FUZZY AUTOMATIC BP MONITOR

- TOUCH SCREEN OPERATION
- 40 Memory Function
- Date / Time Display

MD-900T BP MONITOR (WRIST TYPE)

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels 631-1715, 631-9355, 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7669
E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Branches:
Pasig: (02) 631-1715
Manila: (02) 711-8374
Davao: (082) 222-4404
Pangasinan: (075) 568-7390
Iloilo: (033) 320-1413
Cebu: (032) 254-2367
Lipa: (043) 757-2051

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

WWW.KLM.COM.PH

"Non-stop... fast... and now DAILY."

Introducing daily non-stop flights to Europe on KLM's Boeing 777.

US$2,370 special offer on World Business Class to any of these destinations: Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hamburg, Lisbon, London, Madrid, Malaga, Manchester, Milan, Munich, Paris, Rome, Venice, Vienna, Zurich.
(Valid for travel between 29 March and 30 June 2005.)

Departure. from Manila at 9:35 p.m.

Find out more on www.klm.com.ph
Or call Air France-KLM at 8871202.

The Reliable Airline KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

AIR FRANCE KLM

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0734, Series of 2005.

PASIG REHABILITATION PROGRAM

BF says Marikina river is key

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

REVIVE Marikina River to rejuvenate the Pasig.

In the mind of Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chair Bayani Fernando, the key to bringing Pasig River back to life was to start with its tributaries, like the Marikina River.

"Rehabilitating the Pasig River will take a long time. In the meantime, let us focus on the tributaries, particularly the Marikina River," he said during a meeting for the Marikina City Ilognayan Festival last week.

Fernando said he already proposed to the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) to concentrate on the Marikina River and turn it into a "recreational community."

He added, "There is a very good chance that the PRRC will adopt the program."

The Marikina River is one of several major waterways that feed the Pasig River. It carries water from the towns of San Mateo and Rodriguez in Rizal.

He said the Marikina River could become the model of what Pasig River should be.

"All efforts on wastewater treatment should be focused first on the Marikina River," Fernando said.

Once the Marikina River is fully revived, then water flowing to the Pasig River will be clean.

Diluting Pasig

"If you mix that clean water, at least it will dilute harmful bacteria (in the Pasig River) and improve the water quality," he explained.

According to the 2003 Pollution Report of the Departmet of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Marikina and Pasig rivers are two of five waterways in Metro Manila that are biologically dead.

The other three are the San Juan, Navotas-Malabon-Tenejeros-Tullahan and Parañaque rivers.

As biologically dead, the five Metro Manila rivers fail to meet the requirements for Class C water.

Under the DENR's Class C classification, a river has water assessed to be safe for the propagation of edible fish, like tilapia, and other aquatic resources, boating and other recreational use without human contact like swimming and for industrial use.

The PRRC, whose goal is to rehabilitate the Pasig River by 2015, earlier announced its plan to revive the ferry service in the river, which will host 17 stations.

Fernando, who is also co-chair for PRRC, had proposed that at least two ferry stations be put up along the Marikina River.

Fernando was mayor of Marikina City for three straight terms, from 1992 to 2001. It was during his term when rehabilitation of the Marikina River was started and the waterway underwent drastic improvement.

His wife Marides is the current mayor of Marikina City.

SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE!
20% discount
ALLEN&HEATH
Our Allen&Heath GL2200 series mixers are on SALE at 20% DISCOUNT on cash basis.
Call 687-0371 or 687-0385 now!
Hurry while stocks last!
GL2200 mixer
GL2200-424 mixer Original Price: P142,100 SALE PRICE: P113, 680
GL2200-432 mixer Original Price: P183,000 SALE PRICE: P146, 400
STAGE Craft
Also available through the following Stage Craft dealers:
- Music Phils Trading - Dau, Mabalacat, Pampanga
- Vertek - Raon Manila
- STR2 - Lapasan, Cagayan De Oro City
- Loud and Clear Electronics - Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City
- Modular Display - Jordan Plains Subd., Novaliches, QC
- Sound Chaser - Quirino Avenue, Davao City
Visit us at PNCC Compound EDSA cor. Reliance St., Mandaluyong City

HELP IN A HURRY!
MC McBride™
FIRST AID KIT
SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE [illegible] 3, Makati
FIRST AID KIT
1 pc. First Aid Kit Bag PVC Oxford Textile with Multi-Pocket
6 pcs. Bantam Strips
1 pc. Menthol Strips
1 pc. Torniquet
3 pcs. McBride Gauze Pads - sterile 4x4
1 pc. McBride Eye Pad - sterile
1 pc. McBride Triangular Bandage
1 pc. McBride Elastic Bandage size 4x5 yds.
1 btl. Alcohol 120 mL
1 btl. Aromatic Spirit of Ammonia
1 pc. Burn Ointment
1 pc. Plaster 1x5 (2.5 x 1m)
1 pc. Ice Bag #6
1 pack Instant Cold Pack
1 btl. Povidone Iodine 30 mL
1 pack Cotton 12 G
1 pc. Oral Thermometer
1 pc. Bandage Scissor
1 pc. Thumb Forcep
1 pc. Operating Scissor
Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig City	Manila City	Cebu City	Davao City	Iloilo City	Lipa City	Pampanga	Pangasinan
(02)	(02)	(032)	(082)	(033)	(043)	(045)	(075)
631-1715	711-8874	[illegible]	222-4404	320-1413	757-3051	961-7892	[illegible]

Sentinel®
#416.5218-19
373.9797
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT:
60 C.B.T. Condo., West Ave., Q.C.
E-mail: sales@sentinel.com.ph
www.sentinel.com.ph
Genesis
Intellect
Large Tablet • Regular Tablet •
Excel 2
Smartee 2-seater
CERTIFIED 400 LBS. LOAD-TESTED
Oval 52" Round 37" SS Square 32" Park Bench

Taguig mayor treats local folk to *lugaw*

NO LESS than the mayor himself served Taguig City residents with warm *lugaw* with chunks of chicken steaming with the aroma of ginger, onion and garlic.

"Palugaw" stations were set up at different venues in Taguig's 18 barangays yesterday to celebrate Mayor Freddie Tiñga's birthday on April 14.

Tiñga went around the city with his wife, barangay officials and councilors to distribute porridge from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"The mayor himself poured *lugaw* into cups and ate with his constituents," said Ana Santos of the Taguig Public Information Office.

Members of the Kilusang Diwa ng Taguig, Tiñga's local political party, and his supporters contributed ingredients and helped the mayor prepare the food. *Fran Katigbak*

Doña Jovita Garden Resort
the place to be this summer...
Km. 57 National Highway, Bagong Kalsada,
Calamba City, Laguna, Philippines 4027
Tel Nos. (02) 807-0245 / 842-2057 / (049) 545-3740 / 545-6657
E-mail: donajovita@pacific.net.ph
Website: www.donajovitagardenresort.coms.ph

Shot, knifed in QC

A HOMELESS man was gunned down by still unidentified suspects before dawn Saturday in Quezon City.

The victim was identified by residents of Barangay Old Balara only as "Ome."

Police said that about 12:20 a.m. residents awoke to successive gunshots.

They then saw two men, one with a handgun, shouting, *"Walang makikialam* (No one interfere)!" before fleeing, police said.

The residents saw Ome's body sprawled on the ground in front of a sari-sari store. The victim had gunshot wounds in the face and chest, police said.

Investigators found what they described as an "improvised tooter," a lighter, and a knife on the victim's waist.

Meanwhile, the body of Eduardo Urbano, 28, was discovered in front of a shanty on Nawasa Lane in Barangay Holy Spirit yesterday.

Urbano, of Lot 11, Block 2, Carol St., San Miguel Subdivision, Tandang Sora, sustained stab wounds all over his body, police said.

Police have no suspects in the killing of Urbano. *DJ Yap*

Do you miss the spark?
ADDLIFE CoQ10 is made of 30mg pure CoQ10. *Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10)* is a natural enzyme that plays an important role in providing energy to your cells, specifically in areas where cellular energy is needed the most like your heart.
You need to supplement with ADDLIFE CoQ10 once you reach the age of 30 because your body's supply of CoQ10 starts to diminish starting at age 20. Scientists still can't explain why, but they noticed a link between CoQ10 depletion and the onset of age-related diseases like coronary heart disease, premature aging and even some forms of cancer.
One of the reasons why this probably happens is that aside from acting as a cell energizer, CoQ10 also acts as a powerful antioxidant that helps combat harmful free radicals.
Take advantage of CoQ10's dual benefit to your heart and your body.
Take ADDLIFE CoQ10 everyday!
Give energy to your heart
ADDLIFE CoQ10 ANTIOXIDANT

OPEN HOUSE TODAY FEW UNITS LEFT
VELLAGIO TOWER
For Elegance Comfort and Convenient Living
READY FOR OCCUPANCY
Own a STUDIO unit with bathtub
For as low as P 12,696/mo.
STUDIO, 1BR, 2BR
COMPLETE AMENITIES (W/ CCTV)
17 - Storey Residential & Commercial Condominium
2011 Leon Guinto St., Malate, Manila
COOL SUMMER TREATS!
BIG Cash Discount *Plus Free* Furnitures & Appliances:
Bed, Dining Table, 2-seater Sofa w/ center table, Aircon 1HP, 21" Color TV, [illegible] Cabinet, La Germania range, Ref. 6 cu.ft., Blender, Toaster, Rice cooker, Electric Airpot, Coffee maker
Reservation Fee of P 50,000 accepted at G/F Sales Office 8AM to 7PM or CALL JOSIE at 522-0278 • 0915-5727152 • Fax [illegible]
Rizal Stadium · Quirino Ave. · San Andres · Z · La Salle · Taft Ave. · PGH · NBI · Mcdo · St. Benilde · PWU · PCU · L. Guinto
Exclusive Marketing Manager SPACEWORK REALTY, INC.
Owner / Developer WAJ REALTY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Sentricon®
Termite Colony Elimination System
Dow AgroSciences
BECAUSE SOME THINGS CAN'T BE REPLACED, DESTROY TERMITE COLONIES BEFORE TERMITES DESTROY YOUR HOME.
BIO-TECH
BIO-TECH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PHILS., INC.
TERMITE & PEST CONTROL SERVICES
Manila Office
Tel. Nos.: 638-2566 ; 638-3350
Fax No.: 633-6088
Email: biotech@info.com.ph
Cebu Office
Tel. Nos.: (032) 253-5094
(032) 232-6977
An Authorized Operator of Sentricon Termite Colony Elimination System

METRO
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: Inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Editor* **Ester G. Dipasupil** ■ *Assistant Editor* **Cenon B. Bibe Jr.**

SUERTRES 2 1 8
(In exact order)
EZ2 26 31

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
2 4 16 19 20 26
₱11,004,119.70

SWEEPSTAKES
2 7 5 9 5 4 L
₱100,000.00

MAKE OR BREAK FOR MMDA

JV gives pink fences one more week

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THIS may be the last chance of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority to prove that its pink fences in front of Camp Crame on Edsa works.

San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito was poised last week to dismantle the fences but decided to give MMDA one more week up to Friday to prove that the barricades could help improve traffic in the municipality.

Ejercito allowed the extension after MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando assured him they would modify the fences to address the complaints of motorists.

The mayor earlier threatened to remove the fences after businessmen complained that the barricades were jamming traffic and preventing customers from coming to the Greenhills Shopping Center.

The fences, meant to limit buses within the avenue's two outer lanes, have reportedly been causing traffic buildup even in San Juan sidestreets.

"We will observe if (the improvements on the fences) will ease traffic in the Greenhills area," Ejercito said.

The MMDA and the municipal Task Force Disiplina agreed last week to put additional entrance and exits on the fences.

But Fernando said a week would not be enough, adding that at least three weeks were needed to assess the impact of the improved fences.

The MMDA is also putting up concrete loading bays in the middle of the fenced-off bus lanes of Edsa, particularly fronting Camp Crame.

"Let us wait for the project to be completed. Then we can assess the effect on traffic," Fernando said.

The project is expected to be completed in two to three weeks.

Speaking over the MMDA's weekly program on radio dzBB, Fernando said the pink fences and the mid-road loading bays were being put up for the benefit of the majority of motorists using Edsa.

Both projects are aimed at making the avenue's three outer lanes faster, the MMDA chair said.

Ejercito earlier gave Fernando only until last Wednesday to remove the pink fences covering about 500 meters from the corner Annapolis to the corner Connecticut. *With Tarra Quismundo*

Robbers take ₱1M and car in Marikina

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE ROBBERS apparently knew that they were carrying a big sum of money.

On Saturday night, a couple fell prey to five robbers who barged into their house in Marikina City, took almost P1 million cash and escaped using their car.

Police believe the robbery could have been an inside job because the robbers knew the couple was carrying money at that time.

Danilo Mendoza, 56, and his wife Aurora, 55, had just come from their grocery store in Barangay Sta. Elena, city police chief Felipe Rojas said.

That night, the couple brought home their store's earnings because banks were closed.

They had just entered their compound inside Marikina East Subdivision, Barangay San Roque, and were parking their Suzuki Vitara at 7:45 p.m. when the suspects struck.

Some of the robbers, armed with handguns, dragged Danilo inside the house and locked him, his children and their maid inside the bathroom.

In the garage, other robbers took the cash and the car's keys from Aurora.

The robbers then got into the car and fled.

Witnesses said they saw about five men a few meters from the house minutes before the robbery.

Danilo told investigators he did not recognize any of the armed men.

But police said someone who knew the victims could have given information to the robbers.

Jail mosque reopening 'not enough'

By Margaux C. Ortiz

MANILA City Jail officials may have reopened a mosque to inmates but a Muslim leader said that was not enough.

"The inmates are allowed to pray only twice a day inside the mosque," Datu Amerol-Gulam Ambiong, president of the National Muslim Peace and Order Coordinating Council, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Ambiong said Islam required its faithful to pray five times a day and "anything less would be a sin."

"The prayers only last for seven to 12 minutes," Ambiong said, adding that the officials could close the mosque after the prayers.

Ambiong emphasized that freedom of religion should be respected at all times, especially for those behind bars.

He stressed that access to the prayer room would greatly help in the spiritual rehabilitation of the prisoners.

Discrimination

"There appears to be a discrimination against the Muslim inmates with the present situation at the MCJ," Ambiong said.

MCJ officials earlier closed the mosque for a month due to "security reasons."

Chief Insp. Noel Montalbo, deputy warden, had explained that since the Camp Bagong Diwa siege in March, MCJ officials had been instituting changes to boost security.

Montalbo said that aside from temporarily closing down the mosque, they have also destroyed thousands of small rooms owned by the inmates and prevented minors from entering the MCJ.

"We have intelligence reports that there may be inmates who sympathize with the alleged members of the Abu Sayyaf Group killed in Bicutan," Montalbo explained, adding that some inmates hanged out for long periods of time inside the mosque.

The deputy warden also clarified that they have restricted the movements of all inmates, "regardless of religion."

RESPECT. TRUST. HONOR.
JCB
3540 1234 5678 9012
12/06
REYNOLD G. DUMAPAY
Enriching your life.

JCB CARDS

JCB Credit Card. Honored anywhere in the world. Always within your reach.

For inquiries, please call 845-3475.

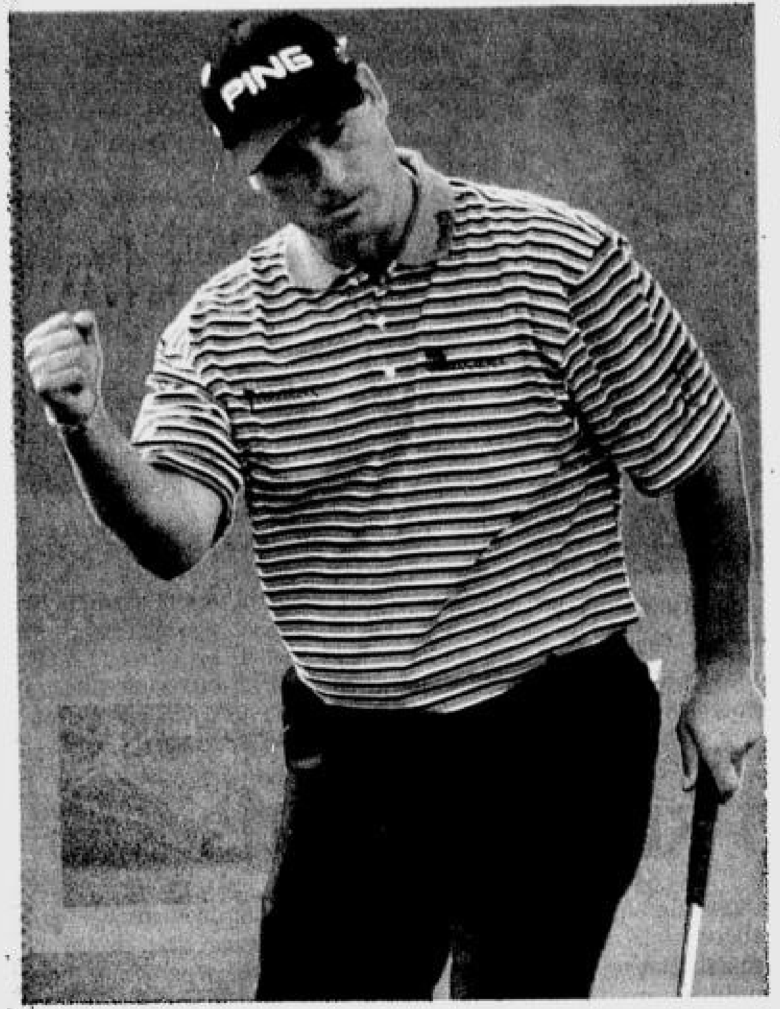
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

DURALITE SANDALS
Sa tibay, hindi basta-basta bumibigay.

MONDAY,
APRIL 11, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SPORTS
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

PC BUYER'S GUIDE
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE PC MAGAZINE IN THE PHILIPPINES
Available in leading bookstores, magazine stands and computer shops nationwide.
PROVINCIAL DISTRIBUTORS WELCOME.
CALL (02)722.5870 TO 73

Rock-solid DiMarco keeps Woods at bay



CHRIS DiMarco reacts after sinking a long birdie putt on the second hole during the third round Saturday to keep the buffer between him and Tiger Woods at six shots at the soggy Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia. REUTERS

AUGUSTA, Georgia—Chris DiMarco held a four-stroke lead over hard-charging Tiger Woods at the Masters when darkness halted play at Augusta National on Saturday.

Playing brilliantly, DiMarco bogeyed only once in his first 45 holes of the weather-delayed event, and earned the right to head the field into the final day on Sunday for the second straight year.

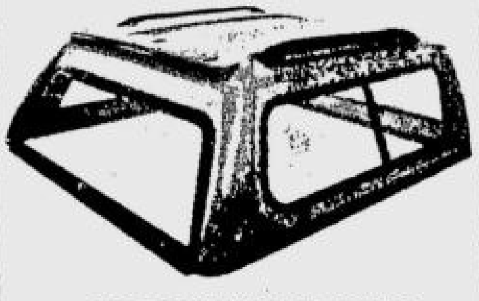
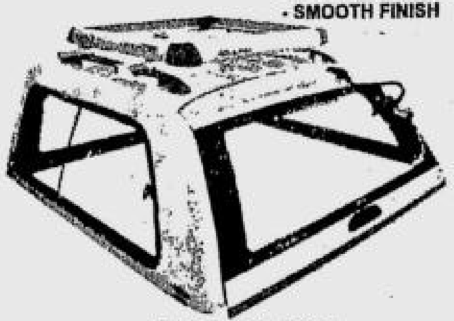
After a pair of 5-under-par 67s in the first two rounds, DiMarco blocked out raucous cheers for Woods by lifting his score to 13 under halfway through the third round, shooting 33 on the front nine before play was stopped.

Woods brought the gallery to its feet, storming into contention after his opening 74 when he finished off a 66 in the second round—the best score of the tournament so far. He made a great start in the third round with 31 on the front nine to be at 9 under.

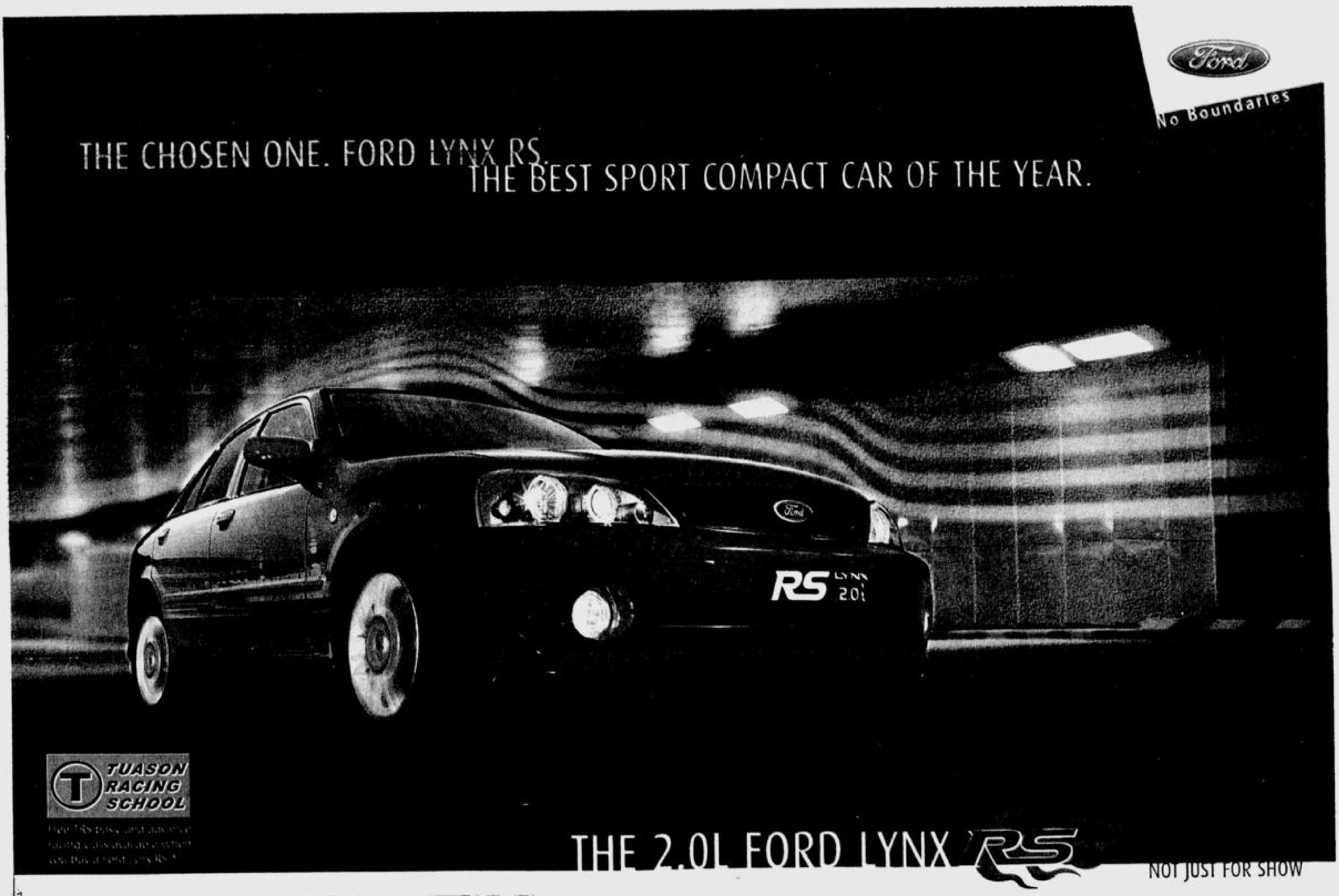
After a first round filled with bad breaks,

ROCK-SOLID/ A26

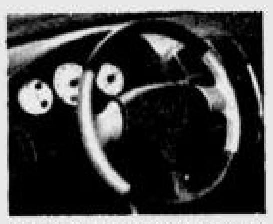
Elegant and inconspicuous on your dash ...and best of all
It Really Works!
Multi-layered dashboard cover with UV inhibitors
- 90% Heat Reduction on dashboard
- Available for most car and van models
- Used by Transhow & Motorshow winners
DASHIELD
1013 EDSA (near Veterans Vill entrance), Quezon City
Tel. nos. 372-3640 • 372-2464 • 415-7837
PATENTED

LOOKING FOR A CANOPY FOR YOUR
2005 TOYOTA HILUX?
AT CAMPERSHELLS
YOU HAVE A CHOICE ...
MAGNUM
- RUGGED, SPORTY
- TEXTURED FINISH

ABS POLYMER PLASTIC
ALPHA
- SLEEK, ELEGANT
- SMOOTH FINISH

FIBERGLASS
RIDE
97 Banawe St., Quezon City
Tel. (632) 711-2127 • 711-2162
Fax (632) 731-9287
http://www.rideoffroad.com
Email: info@rideoffroad.com
ALSO AVAILABLE: AEROCOVER
FIBERGLASS BED COVER

A Revolutionary breakthrough in hair restoration is now available!
Image Associates proudly introduces a state of the art method of hair reconstruction direct from the United States, Veralex™.
IMAGE ASSOCIATES
98 Herrera, Suite 714 Corner Valero Street
Salcedo Village Makati
845-0879
www.imageenhancementgroup.com
The Veralex™ process using 100% human implanted hair, grafted with non-surgical infusion can be done in just two office visits. No donor area is required and coverage is unlimited.
Veralex™ is one of the most natural and undetectable process used today. It requires no surgery, no daily maintenance, no mesh, and no tape. The result are astounding!



THE CHOSEN ONE. FORD LYNX RS.
THE BEST SPORT COMPACT CAR OF THE YEAR.
TUASON RACING SCHOOL
THE 2.0L FORD LYNX RS
NOT JUST FOR SHOW

Sophisticated VICS engine

Leather-wrapped Nardi steering wheel

Racing-inspired interiors
The race has been won. The 2.0L FORD LYNX RS bested all other cars in its class in design, safety, handling, driver satisfaction, innovation and value for money in the recently concluded Car of the Year Awards. That's because this is the car that shares a proud heritage of performance rooted in motorsports. This is your guarantee that with Ford Lynx RS, you're racing with a winner. As a sign of our gratitude for this recognition, we're offering free TRS basic and advance race class packages with the 2.0L Ford Lynx RS.*
For every Ford vehicle sold, Ford Philippines will donate ₱1,000 to the Road Safety Fund that will educate drivers and promote road safety in the Philippines.
ERA 24-HOUR EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
Priced at ₱819,000.00
*Free TRS racing class available under Ford Credit financing scheme. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1979, Series of 2005 www.ford.com.ph
• Ford Alabang, Trunk Lines. 842-3681 / 842-4628; Fax No: 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line. 927-9648, Fax No.: 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel. Nos.: 952-9118, 952-9441, 952-9446 Fax No. 952-9440 • Ford EDSA, Tel. No: 744-2222; Fax No.: 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel. No.: 723-7029 • Ford Libis, Trunk Line: 637-2044, Fax No. 637-6008 • Ford Makati, Trunk Line: 818-5555, Fax No.: 815-0513
• Ford Manila, Tel No.: 562-5555 Fax No 562-8935 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel. Nos.: 731-2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line: 717-0288; Telefax. 717-1390 • Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos.: (045) 963-5205 / 961-2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel No (044) 464-0111; Fax No. (044) 600-4200 • Ford Dagupan, Tel No.: (075) 522-2222, Telefax: (075) 515-5520
• Ford San Pablo, Tel No.: (049) 562-9186; Telefax. (049) 562-8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel. No.: (046) 472-2040, Fax. (046) 472-2048 • Ford Cebu, Trunk Line. (032) 231-9180, Fax No.: (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No. (034) 432-2151, Telefax: (034) 434-2877 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No.: (033) 321-3352, Telefax No.: (033) 321-3351 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel. Nos. (088) 855-0811, Telefax. (088) 855-8877 • Ford Davao, Tel. No. (082) 234-1111; Fax No. (082) 234-2222

Congratulations,
Ultron REV-X Oil Million
WINNERS!
Weekly Winners:
Draw Date : Feb. 25, 2005
Harry Taller, Manila
Samsung E800 Cellphone
Antonio C. Bacerdo, Camarines Norte
Samsung V50 Digital Camera
Aprilyne Oftana, General Santos City
Samsung HD748 DVD Player
Nelson Villanueva, Cavite
Magic Sing
Guillermo Soriano, Caloocan City
1Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Russell Palangan, Calamba City
1Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Cecilia Barbara Dimalanta, Pampanga
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Arnold David, Pampanga
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Draw Date : March 7, 2005
Christopher Bagares, Bukidnon
Samsung E800 Cellphone
Charlito M. Canosa, La Union
Samsung V50 Digital Camera
Nicanor Maniclang, Laguna
Samsung HD748 DVD Player
Julius Abalos, Olongapo City
Magic Sing
Edwin A. Cruz, Nova QC
1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Jose Rey G. Gayanes, Calamba City
1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Carlos Gabito, Zambo Sur
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Lilibeth G. Vilas, Dumaguete City
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
WAG MAGPAHULI, BUMILI NG PETRON ULTRON AT REV-X AT BAKA KAYO NA ANG SUSUNOD NA MANALO!

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Sunday leads Kings to No. 1 spot

Win a cellcard daily and a cellphone weekly!

I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot.

Ang premyo:

Cellcard kada araw!

Cellphone kada linggo! This week's prize

Tanong ng Bayan

INQ TV ABC

I-type lang ang:
INQTV < inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <edad>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, at ipadala sa 2910. Winners will be identified on InqTV ,Thursdays on ABC.

Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 4pm

text 2910 Pabor ba kayo sa 4-day work week!

For Sun, Smart and Globe subscribers

Congrats, Nelson Mendoza ng Baras, Rizal! Nanalo ka ng Nokia 2600!

"s 5 days lunch break is 11am to 2pm, s 4days baka abutin n ng 4pm, mahaba p nman ang time eh... parehas lang yan! "

Cellcard kada araw, cellphone kada linggo! Text na!

GAMES WEDNESDAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:45 p.m.—Purefoods vs Sta. Lucia Realty
7:35 p.m.—Shell vs Barangay Ginebra

By June Navarro

BARANGAY Ginebra went off to a hot start anchored on Sunday Salvacion and crushed San Miguel, 103-88, to take the solo lead in the Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

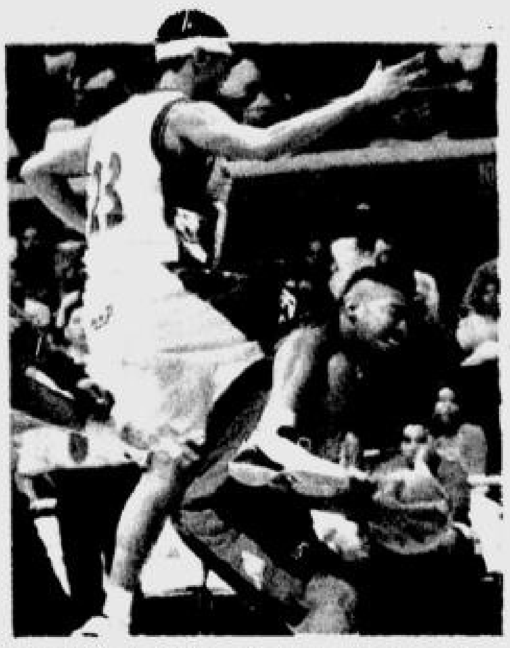
Salvacion poured in 10 points in the first period as the Kings took a 30-19 lead and never looked back on the way to their fifth win in seven outings.

The Beermen dropped to 5-3.

Salvacion and Eric Menk led Barangay Ginebra with 18 points each. Four other players finished in double figures, including Aris Dimaunahan, whose 13 points and 10 assists marked his first career double-double.

Reynel Hugnatan struck on an assist by Jeffrey Cariaso and Alaska scored an 87-83 decision of FedEx in the first game.

Hugnatan broke an 83-83 tie after an ill-advised three-point attempt by Ren Ren Ritualo before Cariaso himself doomed the Express with two charities in the dying seconds of play.



DON Allado of Alaska is fouled underneath by FedEx's Wesley Gonzales. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

"We struggled throughout but luckily they (Express) missed a couple of shots in the end," said coach Tim Cone of Alaska, which picked up only a third victory in seven games.

The Express, rated as the No. 1 offensive team, also blew three straight free throws starting with the bonus charity by Anthony Miller who missed a three-point play after giving FedEx an 83-81 lead.

Cone said the Aces' smothering defense proved the key in stopping FedEx.

"Defense defines the character of a team and we're digging deep within ourselves to accomplish that," said Cone.

The scores:

First Game

ALASKA 87—Simpkins 17, Cariaso 17, Cortez 15, Allado 10, Thoss 9, Hawkins 7, Cablay 7, Hugnatan 5, Wilson 0.

FEDEX 83—Miller 27, Ritualo 16, Arboleda 12, De Ocampo 9, Gonzales 9, Billones 3, Dacia 2, Ferriols 2, Codiñera 2, David 1, Pingris 0.

Quarters: 23-26, 45-43, 66-61, 87-83

Second Game

GINEBRA 103—Salvacion 18, Menk 18, Caguioa 17, Santos 16, Elisma 13, Dimaunahan 13, Adducul 8, Echavez 0, Wallkvist 0, Noble 0, Ballesteros 0.

SAN MIGUEL 88—Seigle 29, Hontiveros 19, Belasco 17, Burgess 11, Racela 6, Mente 4, Canlas 2, Lopez 0, Gamboa 0.

Quarters: 30-19, 56-40, 83-66, 103-88

Rock-solid DiMarco keeps Woods . . .

From page A25

Woods got one in his favor at the end of the day. The three-time champion's ball was caked with mud when the siren sounded, so he marked his position in the 10th fairway, allowing him to start on Sunday with a clean ball.

Denmark's Thomas Bjorn was at 8 under par, and no one else was close.

Vijay Singh and a pair of Australians, Rod Pampling and Mark Hensby, were at 4 under. Defending champion Phil Mickelson was another shot behind—but 10 shots behind DiMarco.

The Masters usually doesn't begin until the back nine on Sunday afternoon. This time, it will start on Sunday morning.

"I kind of wish we could play some more, but that's OK," DiMarco said.

Right when Woods started to make his move, DiMarco answered with a slick 10-footer for birdie on the seventh, and another 10-foot birdie on the eighth. He played smartly, taking chances only when they were there.

"If Chris keeps playing the way he is, he's going to be very difficult to catch," Bjorn said. "It's fine golf."

Bjorn, however, is a friend of Woods and has seen some of his best golf. The Dane saw plenty of it on the front nine on Saturday afternoon playing in the group behind him, and he was duly impressed.

"Tiger is Tiger," Bjorn said. "When he gets on these kind of runs, you never know what's going to happen."

However, DiMarco must feel like it's his time. He keeps putting himself in contention at the Masters—the second round was his fifth time atop the leaderboard in the last four years. He lost in a playoff in the last major he played, the PGA Championship in August.

Woods had some good omens, too, one involving the man whose major championship record he chases.

He won the last PGA Championship and US Open that Jack Nicklaus played, both in 2000. He also won the British Open, which, at the time, Nicklaus said was his last.

Woods, who has gone 10 majors without winning, looked like an eight-time major winner as he started chipping away at a six-shot deficit. DiMarco refused to blink, hitting greens, gritting his teeth with every putt he made.

DiMarco only has three US PGA Tour victories. But he has raised his game at the majors, particularly at Augusta. When his birdie putt on the 18th stayed just short of the hole, DiMarco had a 67 and the 36-hole lead at the Masters. *AP*

More Masters stories on A28

UNBELIEVABLE TRAVEL DEALS! as low as $99

Malaysian vacation packages from China Travel!

3D/2N Kota Kinabalu	as low as $ 99	5D/4N Kuala +Genting +Singapore	as low as $268
4D/3N Kuala + Genting	as low as $188	6D/5N Kuala +Genting +Sunway Lagoon	as low as $270
4D/3N Kuala + Genting + Malacca (Fullboard)	as low as $225	4D/3N Kota Kinabalu (at the Sutera Harber Resort, 5-Star Hotel)	as low as $258

Packages include:
- Roundtrip Airfares
- Hotel Accommodations
- Tours w/ English-Speaking Guides
- Hotel Breakfasts **
- Airport Transfers

** kindly verify full details of your selected packages with our representatives.

菲律濱中国旅行社
CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE, INC. PCVC PTAA IATA
801-803 Sabino B. Padilla St. (formerly Gandara) cor. Espeleta St., Sta. Cruz, Manila, Philippines
Tels: 7331-274, -396, -398, -276, -420, -421 Fax: 733-1431 Cable: Chinatrvl Manila email: ctsmnl@info.com.ph
License No. TA-061 DOT Accreditation No. TO-034-2005

Rare discoveries in the sea around Tagbilaran

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad

SO WHAT'S the best thing to do the next time you get the chance to visit Tagbilaran, Bohol?

A lot of wonderful things, of course.

Like visit the many historical places, enter and say a prayer in at least a couple of mossy, old churches, seek out the world-famous tarsier, try the Chocolate Hills or, if you're lucky enough, catch a concert of the internationally acclaimed Luboc Choir.

Truth is you could enjoy the visit by just observing the quiet, unspoiled ways of a peaceful people who live in harmony with the land and the unspoiled, generous sea.

Of course, the best way to enjoy is to do what not very many people do.

For example, try to visit the wet market, pick up a tray of rich, live seashells, a piece of fleshy seawater fish, rush off to Panglao island for a dip in the clear ocean, after wading through white sand that feels fine as talcum powder under your feet.

***

This was what I and Gov. Manny Piñol of North Cotabato did on Saturday morning.

We decided to return to the sea.

You know, our way of rewarding ourselves after the national amateur boxing development program Gov. Piñol had put together was approved and adopted by the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP).

The LPP held a general assembly at the Bohol Tropics, an exquisite seaside hotel-resort where Piñol made an impressive presentation of the sports program he had conceptualized with Palawan Gov. Joey de los Reyes.

Piñol got both applause and approval.

The mechanics of the program will be presented to the media tomorrow during the Philippine Sportswriters Association forum at the Manila Pavilion.

The program, designed to support and supplement the campaign of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines (ABAP) in its quest for the elusive first Olympic gold medal for the Philippines, will be anchored on the services of a highly respected Cuban coach, who has won nearly 30 gold medals in Olympic and world competitions for his country.

***

We leave the announcement of other details of the dream amateur boxing program to Ilocos Sur Gov. Chavit Singson, chair of the LPP executive committee.

Singson, presiding over the LPP exe-com meeting with sharpness and charming authority, has assured the success of the development program with the support of all 79 provincial governors all over the country.

The program will not only be nationwide, its working mechanics will also ensure that all potentials from the cities, urban areas and deep down the sleepy barangays will be harnessed.

We have here the name and credentials of the Cuban coach whose expertise and knowhow, including supervision over the younger Cuban coach who had won three Olympic gold medals for Thailand, but all these will be announced by members of the Singson party—Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado, president of the LPP, and Piñol, himself the director of the boxing program—at the PSA Forum.

***

By the way, we also took a little swim as planned in the sea off Panglao.

Let me report that, after nearly an hour in the warm embrace of the ocean, this reporter returned fully charged. Renewed, if you please, because it was a truly soothing experience.

Of course, we had that tray of seashells, together with the red-gray butterfly fish, cooked over coals.

The inexpensive goodies from the ocean were slowly washed down with ice-cold light beer, then it was back to sea for another swim.

But with or without the *pulutan* and the small beer, let me report with pride and satisfaction that there's a little-known seaside paradise in Bohol that's greater than half a dozen Boracays strung together.

No scathing commercialism, no pushing crowds, no clutter, no smog. What stood out were the satisfied quiet smiles of visitors.

By the way, you could reach Panglao, the Dimalunan resort area in particular, by taking public transport, P18 each head, from the terminal near the Tagbilaran market area.

Or you could hire a vehicle that would take you to your destination and fetch you later at the appointed hour for as low as P100.

***

It was a weekend of discoveries out there in magical Bohol.

But nothing could beat the realization that, away from the cheap noise in Congress, the hassles and the power play in Malacañang, a little-known government body known as the LPP is steadily pushing for no-nonsense national growth.

For example, the cattle dispersal program, designed to finally end the stranglehold of fascistic foreign firms and establish our own dairy industry, could soon see fruition under the auspices of the LPP.

The LPP, with wholehearted support of the governors, is steadily working on a poverty alleviation program anchored on the use of our best resources for recovery, the land and our vast agricultural treasures.

Unlike in Congress, a lot of common sense and transparency go into the mechanics of the various programs being adopted by the LPP.

Maybe the President could finally make things work by ordering the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to seek a working tie-up with the governors' league for the good of everybody, mainly the poor.

PHOTOS TAKEN DURING INQUIRER BADMINTON EXPO 2004.

Join the BIGGEST BADMINTON EVENT of the year

INQUIRER Badminton EXPO YEAR 2

EVERYTHING IN BADMINTON UNDER ONE ROOF

MAY 20 - 22, 2005
MEGATRADE HALL 2
SM MEGAMALL

HURRY! ONLY LIMITED SLOTS AVAILABLE!

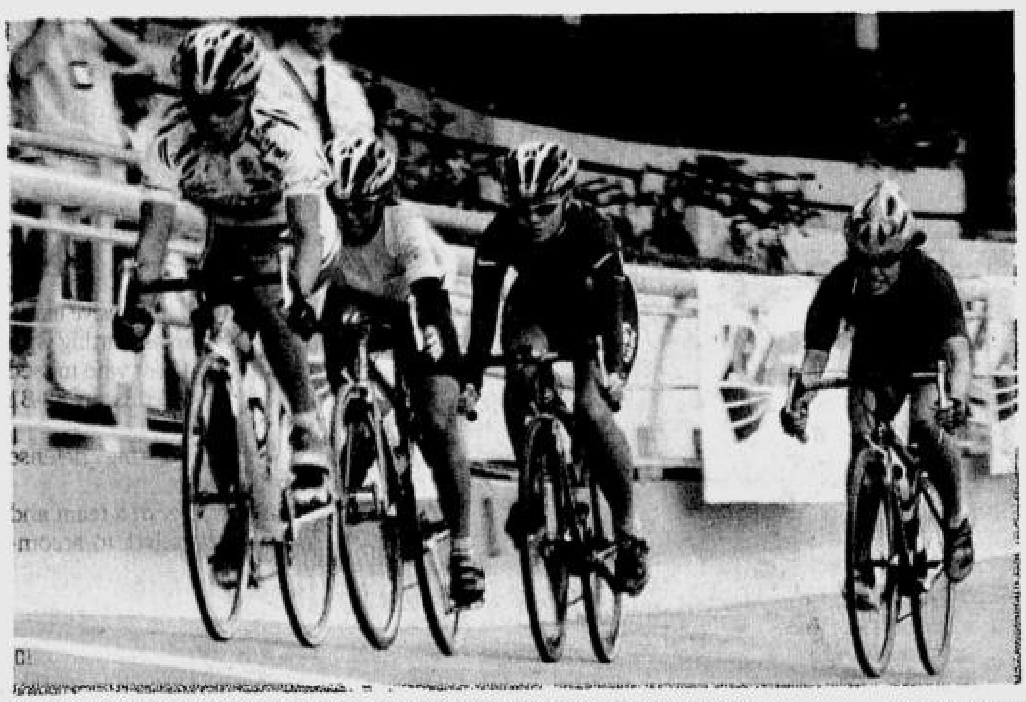
AVAILABLE PACKAGES

PACKAGE A1 DISPLAY BOOTH .... PHP 15,000
Club shares, memberships, trophies, mats, insurance

PACKAGE A2 SELLING BOOTH .... PHP 18,000
Specialized badminton-related items

PACKAGE B SELLING BOOTH .... PHP 45,000
Badminton apparel, supplies, equipment

FOR BOOTH RESERVATIONS AND INQUIRIES, CALL CHING DELA CRUZ AT 897-8808 loc. 259.
DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION IS ON APRIL 29, 2005



MARITES Bitbit (left) leads the women's Elite division after five races. JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Manapul, Bitbit pace Velo races

TOP Southeast Asian Games bets Paulo Manapul and Marites Bitbit show the way in the men's and women's Elite field as the First Philippine Velo Challenge hits the halfway mark tomorrow at the Amoranto Velodrome in Quezon City.

Manapul, of Wescor Transformer Corp. team, has 26 points to lead the men's Elite category.

Veteran Paterno Curtan of Team QC is in second with 23 points followed by Tagaytay International Convention Center's (TICC) Nilo Estayo with 20 points in the event co-presented by the First Gentleman's Foundation and Air21 (Sagot Ko, Padala Mo!)-Tour Pilipinas Inc.

Bitbit, a cinch for the RP team to the 23rd SEA Games mountain bike and road events in November, has 19 points as Elixir's top female bet, followed by MayniLA's Marita Lucas with 14, and Puerto Princesa City's Bing Alto with 12.

The Velo Challenge, supported primarily by Pagcor and backed by the Philippine Sports Commission, the Philippine Olympic Committee, Isuzu D-Max, Sharp Phils., San Miguel Corp.-Viva Mineral Water, Vittoria Tires, 93.9 iFM, RMN dzXL 558, David's Salon and Intrasports, resumes with Day Five of its 10-race day schedule from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. tomorrow.

The races are aired over Sports Radio 918 khz.

The other leaders are Jerwin Torres of MayniLA in the Juniors division with 21 points, Edilberto Lantin of Wescor in Executives (13), Gerardo Amar of Elixir in the Veterans and Virgilio Valenzuela of Puerto Princesa City in the Masters.

Prisaa National Games fires off today

ABOUT 3,000 athletes from the country's 15 regions plunge into action in 12 sports events as the 2005 Private Schools Athletic Association (Prisaa) National Games kicks off today in Zamboanga City.

The regional teams will dispute gold medals in athletics, badminton, baseball, basketball, chess, sepak takraw, softball, swimming, tennis, table tennis, taekwondo and volleyball.

Today's opening ceremonies will be led by Prisaa chair Dr. Emmanuel Y. Angeles, host president Fr. Bill Kreutz and special guests POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco and PSC commissioner Leon Montemayor.

Based on a newly-designed competition format presented by AYN Sports Management Group, the barrio-themed games are expected to create a lot of excitement and opportunities for all participants. The six-day sports competition is largely supported by the local government headed by Mayor Celso Lobregat and its Sangguniang Bayan, led by Councilor Elong Natividad.

Romance in a cup of tea

A sexual act is an excellent form of exercise. Using almost all of your muscles, it burns up to 300 calories an hour which is almost equivalent to 15 minutes of walking in the treadmill. Studies also show that engaging in a loving, intimate relationship through rewarding and regular intercourse improves the well-being of a person. It makes one feel younger, less irritable and happy because of the endorphins and oxytocin released during the blissful activity of making love. These naturally occurring chemicals serve as natural opiates that act as pain and anxiety killers.

But as men age, their sexual capacity is lessened. Add to that the stress they get from their surroundings and their relationships will be doomed. They will often feel tired. Ergo, they will have less urge to engage in intimate moments with their partners. But then again, science understands the needs of men. From the makers of the well-established slimming tea for women Kankunis comes yet another breakthrough product. **Honey Moon Tea, Love Potion for Men** is the answer to men's sexual drive problems. Made from natural ingredients carefully researched to solve erectile dysfunctions, increase sexual desire and prolong orgasms-this tea does not need any prescription at all.

Honey Moon Tea is a concoction of traditional Chinese herbs *Herba Epimedu, Herba Cynomoru, Woodwardia Japonica, Fructus Polygalea, Yang Gong Cao, Radix Polygalea, Semen Astragali Complanati, Radix Ginseng and Pilose Antler.* The potion promotes endocrine regulation to help lengthen sexual climax by empowering the body's metabolism during intercourse.

Mixed in the right proportion, the herbs are also known to help improve the immune system of the body and reinforce the functions of the liver and the kidney. The herbs also have curative benefits and help rid off free-radicals in the body. *Herba Epimedu, Herba Cynomoru* and *Woodwardia Japonica* also contain saponins and glycosides which are known as body-building agents that strengthen the bones and the muscles. *Radix Polygalea* invigorates the kidney and the spleen. *Semen Astragali Complanati* improves the eyesight. *Fructus Polygalea* and *Yang Gong Cao* are known as anti-inflammatory agents for pharyngitis. These are also used traditionally as sedative, expectorant, and resuscitating agent. The famous *Radix Ginseng* which is considered a male aphrodisiac is a tonic herb that athletes use to combat stress. The *Pilose Antler* contains sex hormones, estrone and estranediol which helps the sexual glands to secrete more for longer erection of the male genitalia.

Advisable for men from their 30s and up, **Honey Moon Tea** is also for dynamic men who want to intensify their sexual activities through improved sexual drive and for men who need extra stamina for prolonged physical activities like sports. It is to be consumed at least 10-15 minutes before the sexual activity. It is available in tin boxes with 30 sachets each. Modestly priced at ₱2,100 per box, it is a better alternative than resorting to costly chemically-produced medicines which have harmful side effects for the body.

Honey Moon Tea, Love Potion for Men is exclusively distributed by **REJ Diamond Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** and is now available in all leading drugstores and supermarkets.

HONEY MOON
LOVE POTION FOR MEN
HONEY MOON TEA (instant tea) is a natural love potion formulated exclusively for men which helps ignite sensuality making every intimate moment feel like a Honeymoon. Its well-blended Chinese herbs are also known to fight fatigue and bring back energy to help release tightness and stress.
AVOID EMBARRASSMENT & FRUSTRATION
防止尴尬和失意
LAGING HANDA

NBC SWEEP

RP-Cebuana rips Laguna quintet

VETERAN Ruben dela Rosa erupted for 22 points Saturday to power RP-Cebuana Lhuillier past Laguna Spring, 90-70, and to a sweep of its four assignments in the Spring Cooking Oil-NBC final North preseason basketball series at the PJL Sports Complex in Las Piñas.

Dela Rosa, who played for defending champion Tribu Sugbu last year, scored 10 points in the first quarter as the Jean Henri Lhuillier-backed Nationals surged to a 23-14 lead and never looked back.

Playing without injured big men Chris Corbin and Rodel Mallari, the Spring of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Laguna Gov. Teresita "Ningning" Lazaro suffered its fourth straight defeat in the BAP-sanctioned series.

RP-Cebuana Lhuillier, which will carry the country's colors in the 2005 Southeast Asian Games here late this year, and the Parañaque Jets of Vice Mayor and actor/TV host Anjo Yllana were disputing the title at presstime yesterday.

In the first game, Far Eastern Insurance-backed Cavite spilled Forward Taguig, 86-76, for its second win in four games.

Edward Attunaga tallied seven straight points to rally the Insurers of Bacoor Vice Mayor Edwin Malvar back into the contest after they had trailed 37-43 at halftime.

The scores:

First Game

CAVITE 86—Panares 19, Attunaga 13, Mopera 12, Valdez 9, Finullar 8, Nunez 7, Plodo 4, Santos 4, Santiago 4, Bolias 2, Bonus 2, Sangco 0, Aransazo 0, Bernal 0.

TAGUIG 76—De Castro 11, Alberto 10, Zablan 9, Marucot 9, Sinco 8, Robillos 6, Vilar 6, Lapinid 5, Reyes 4, Magsalin 3, Ricafuente 2, Lustestica 2, Gonzales 1, Reguera 0, Magsombol 0.

Quarters: 16-21, 37-43, 60-60, 86-76

Second Game

RP-CEBUANA 90—Dela Rosa 22, Canaleta 20, Moore 13, Ferrer 7, Villamin 7, Reyes 6, Latoreno 4, Eman 4, Bombeo 0, Saldua 0

LAGUNA 70—Roda 19, Domingo 15, Niqui 10, Manuel 10, Kalaw 7, Vivero 6, Manucat 4, Nolasco 4, M. Reyes 3, Proceso 2, T. Reyes 0, Alejar 0, Inigo 0, Punzalan 0, Lingal 0.

Quarters: 23-14, 49-31, 67-50, 90-70

Vintage Tañamor barges into semis

COMEBACKING Harry Tañamor saved the day for Team Philippines Saturday night by outboxing Muanton Budee of Thailand Team B in the 26th King's Cup International Boxing Championships in Bangkok, Thailand.

The crafty Tañamor, scoring in clusters of three to four punches at a time, hammered out a 30-15 victory over the Thai to barge into the light flyweight semifinals and earn for the six-man squad its first automatic bronze medal.

Tañamor's win, which set him up for a meeting with Arnod Pangleelad of Thailand A, came before lightweight Anthony Marcial and middleweight Francis Joven absorbed stinging losses.

The rookie Marcial bowed to veteran Chung Chun-an of Taiwan, 11-26, while Joven dropped 23-9 decision to Armpon Heangom of Thailand Team B in their quarterfinals bouts.

Tañamor goes for a finals berth and an automatic silver medal on Monday.

The Filipinos continue their quest for medals on Sunday when flyweight Violito Payla and light welterweight Florencio Ferrer see action in the quarterfinals.

P2-M Mactan derby gains big backer

GAMEFOWL industry leader Thunderbird Power Feeds has thrown its support behind the Bahug-bahug sa Mactan 5-Cock Derby, one of the biggest cockfighting events ever in Cebu province slated April 28 and 29 at the Mactan Arena in Lapu-Lapu City. The derby, hosted by Johnson Lee and sponsored primarily by Thunderbird Platinum, stakes a guaranteed prize of P2 million. Thunderbird Bexan-XP will also sponsor the Mayor Rodrigo de Asis 4-Cocker on April 22 at the New Solana Cockpit in Solana, Cagayan. With a top prize of P300,000, the derby pegs the entry fee at P11,000. Meanwhile, the Para sa Bayan National 7-Bullstag Derby will be held next week at the Araneta Coliseum. The event will benefit the country's athletes seeing action in the Southeast Asian Games in Manila in November.

THE SUPER BATTERY
MAINTENANCE-FREE
Specially designed for Top of the Line Luxury Sedans, Vans, and High Performance Sports Utility Vehicles
36 MONTHS WARRANTY
MOTOLITE
MAINTENANCE - FREE BATTERY
PLATINUM
36 MONTHS WARRANTY
TROPICALIZED
BUILT FOR HOT CLIMATES
MOTOLITE EGX TECHNOLOGY
MOTOLITE
SUPER PANGMATAGALAN

Tiger roars back into contention

Trails DiMarco by 4 shots

TIGER Woods couldn't seem to do anything wrong in a 27-hole stretch. AFP

AUGUSTA, Georgia—The only bad thing about Saturday for Tiger Woods at the Masters was that it came to an end.

On a day when nothing seemed to go wrong, even that turned out right for the most feared player on the Masters leaderboard.

"It was a great break when they blew the horn," Woods said. "I had mud on my ball and I would have had a very difficult second shot."

Two days after embarrassing himself by putting a ball into the water, Woods mounted a comeback—the likes of which Masters lore is made of—to leapfrog a third of the field and claim second place just four shots back of Chris DiMarco.

Woods played 26 1/2 holes, made 12 birdies and faltered only once with a 3-putt bogey. He finished with a flourish, making birdies on his last three holes before striping it down the middle on the 10th hole and walking away with a big smile on his face.

The dominant player of his time had a lot to smile about, finally reaping some rewards from a swing he insisted was working even during his first two days of misadventures around Augusta National.

"I kept telling myself I kept hitting good golf shots but nothing happened," Woods said. "Just hang in there and keep hitting quality golf shots and it will turn.

"Luckily, it turned."

It turned largely because Woods began finding fairway after fairway with monotonous regularity. And it turned because he didn't make a colossal mistake like putting a ball into the Rae's Creek. And the course didn't bite back at him, as it did when he hit the pin on the first hole in the second round only to have the ball bounce into a bunker.

"It's just part of playing this golf course," Woods said. "You see some weird things happen on this golf course."

Nothing weird happened to Woods on Saturday except that he mistimed his warm-up session for the third round because Augusta National officials were confused about pairings and didn't give players enough advance notice of their tee times.

Once back on the course, he picked up as if he hadn't had a break at all, making five birdies on the front nine of his third round to carve DiMarco's six-shot lead to four.

"Chris could have easily gone off and run away with this tournament," Woods said. "At least now I've got a fighting chance."

DiMarco was making plenty of birdies on his own, shooting a 67 in the second round before playing the front nine of the third round in 3-under 33.

But he couldn't help but notice the presence of Woods on the leaderboard as he made his way around the course.

"I know Tiger shot a 31 and probably expected to be a little closer than that," DiMarco said. "There's a lot of great players behind me."

Woods, who began the day on the second hole after finishing his first 19 holes 2-over-par in the rain-plagued tournament, promptly birdied his first two holes to get back to even par where he could begin feeling a little better about himself.

The best was yet to come. He played the final 17 holes of his second round with cool precision and the kind of intense glare that he reserves for big rounds in major championships.

On the rare occasion he got in trouble, Woods made the shot he needed to make.

"We still have a long way to go, but the whole idea is to give yourself a shot at it on the back nine Sunday," Woods said. "At least I've positioned myself to do that." *AP*

WITH his scores dipping lower and lower beneath the cut line, Jack Nicklaus figures it's time to walk away from the tournament he once ruled with an iron grip. AP

Golden Bear bids Masters goodbye

AUGUSTA, Georgia—Jack Nicklaus stood alone on the ninth green at the Masters, taking a long look at the cheering crowd before dipping his head and brushing away the tears.

So much of his legacy was forged at the Masters, a simple goodbye somehow seemed inadequate. This was what the 65-year-old, six-time champion wanted, though. No ceremonial last round, no grand sendoff.

A few minutes of applause, a hug from his oldest son, and then he was gone, walking off the course at Augusta National for what he says is the last time.

"I don't think I'll play in the tournament again," Nicklaus said on Saturday after shooting a 4-over 76 and missing the cut by five strokes.

"I think it's fine to go ahead and say goodbye and so forth and so on, but I think you say goodbye when you think you can still play a little bit. I think I can play a little bit, but I can't play well enough to be playing."

Nicklaus won six of his 18 majors here (1963, 1965, 1966, 1972, 1975 and 1986), two more green jackets than Arnold Palmer. He was the first to win in consecutive years, and still holds the record as the oldest champion for his last victory at age 46.

"It's a special place," said Nicklaus' wife, Barbara.

But it's no longer his place. The Golden Bear hasn't made the cut since 2000, and hasn't been in contention since he tied for sixth in 1998.

"This is not a celebrity walk-around," he said. "This is a golf tournament. It's a major golf championship. If you're going to play in this championship, you should be competitive and you should be able to compete with who is out there."

Nicklaus didn't announce this would be his last appearance. Other players didn't even know this was his final round.

"Hopefully, he doesn't," Tiger Woods said when asked about Nicklaus leaving. "We didn't give him a sendoff."

Nicklaus refused to think about the end until it was upon him. After putting his second shot on the par-4 No. 9 within four feet of the pin, he knew there was no tomorrow, and his emotions quickly got the best of him.

He and Jackie walked up to the green together and then the son stepped back, making sure his father was front-and-center when he stepped onto the putting surface. Nicklaus looked around, took it all in, then bowed his head to wipe away the tears and compose himself. After all, he still had a putt to make—a birdie chance, at that.

But it wasn't to be, as the ball burned the right edge of the cup. The crowd groaned and Nicklaus looked around in exasperation. After he tapped in, there was one last smile and wave.

Then he walked to the scorer's shed and turned in his last Masters scorecard.

"It's a treasure for me," Nicklaus said. "And I'll miss that greatly." *AP*

Bulls tab first post-MJ playoff slot

CHICAGO—The Chicago Bulls secured their first playoff berth since the Michael Jordan era, beating the Toronto Raptors 110-97 on Saturday night.

Chicago is headed to the playoffs for the first time since the 1997-98 season, when Jordan led the Bulls to their sixth NBA title. The Bulls, winners of 12 of 13, are fourth in the Eastern Conference.

Kirk Hinrich scored 25 points and five Bulls scored in double figures. Tyson Chandler had a season-high 18 points and finished with 21 rebounds in a reserve role.

Jalen Rose led the Raptors with 19 points against his former team.

In other games, New Jersey thumped Boston, 99-86; Atlanta shocked Minnesota, 105-98; Denver humbled Seattle, 121-105; Philadelphia tripped Washington, 112-106, and Cleveland routed Milwaukee, 98-81.

Meanwhile, Dallas defeated Utah, 88-81; San Antonio nipped the Los Angeles Clippers, 125-124, in double overtime, and Houston edged Phoenix, 98-97.

In Cleveland, LeBron James scored 40 points and recorded his third triple-double of the season to help Cleveland keep its weak grasp on a playoff spot.

By snapping a three-game losing streak and winning for just the fifth time in 15 games, Cleveland slowed its freefall through the Central Division standings. With six games left, the Cavaliers are tied with Philadelphia for the No. 7 spot in the East, 1½ games ahead of New Jersey.

James made seven 3-pointers to go with his 10 assists and 10 rebounds. Drew Gooden added 24 points and Jeff McInnis 22 for Cleveland.

Michael Redd led Milwaukee with 26 points.

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Vince Carter scored a season-best 45 points, including 24 in the first quarter, and New Jersey continued their late playoff push.

Jason Kidd added a season-high 17 assists and rookie center Nenad Krstic had 17 points in leading the Nets to their 11th win in 14 games.

Carter finished 18-of-32 from the field, including 7-of-9 from 3-point range.

Paul Pierce had 16 points to lead the Celtics.

In Washington, Andre Iguodala, Willie Green and Marc Jackson scored 20 points each for Philadelphia, which won its fourth straight.

Allen Iverson, the NBA scoring leader, sprained both thumbs in Friday night's win over Cleveland and did not play. *AP*

Que joins Asia 'Fab Five' vs Japan

SHENZHEN, China—The "Fab Five" rookies in the Asia team for the Visa Dynasty Cup defense against Japan are confident they can play key roles in the much-anticipated clash next week.

In-form Singaporean Mardan Mamat, veteran Thai Boonchu Ruangkit, Amandeep Johl of India, South Korea's Mo Joong-kyung and late call-up Angelo Que of the Philippines will be making their debuts in Asia's equivalent of the Ryder Cup at Mission Hills Golf Club, Shenzhen, China, from Friday.

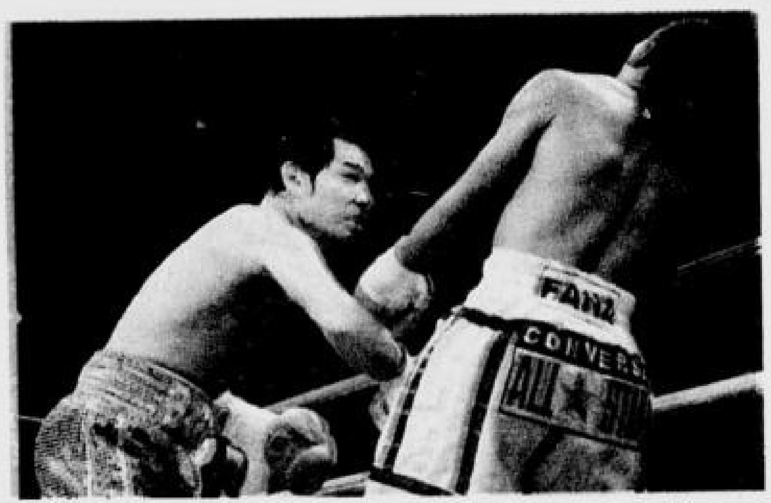
The quintet, dubbed the "Fab Five," can call on years of experience and all except Johl have won on the Asian Tour.

Que, one of the rising stars of Asian golf, was called into the team to replace Korea's Charlie Wi who withdrew due to his commitments on the US PGA Tour.

"I feel really excited to earn a call-up for the Visa Dynasty Cup," said the 27-year-old Que, who won for the first time on the Asian Tour at the Carlsberg Masters Vietnam last November.

"It's going to be a great week and I'm looking forward to contributing to the team. When I got the phone call, I was really excited. We have a good side to face Japan."

Mamat won through to his second British Open by topping the Asian qualifying tournament in Kuala Lumpur earlier this week. *AFP*



WITH one defense taken care of, Marco Antonio Barrera could next figure in a rematch against Manny Pacquiao. AP

Barrera scores 2nd round KO vs Fana

EL PASO, Texas—Mexico's Marco Antonio Barrera knocked out South African challenger Mzonke Fana in the second round here Saturday to retain his World Boxing Council super featherweight title.

Barrera dominated from the opening bell and knocked out the challenger with a devastating right at 1:48 of the second.

Barrera had set the tone in the first round with two right hands that rocked the South African.

In the second, Barrera unleashed a right to the head that knocked Fana off-balance, followed by a jab and another explosive right that sent him crashing to the canvas.

Fana had earned his shot at Barrera with a narrow split decision over Randy Suico of the Philippines last May. That made him the WBC's No. 1 rated contender, but he still arrived in the United States a virtual unknown even to Barrera.

Fana was fighting outside South Africa for just the second time and suffered the third defeat of his career, against 22 victories.

Barrera improved to 60-4, with 42 knockouts. He made his first defense of the 130-pound crown he won last November against compatriot Erik "El Terrible" Morales in the third fight of their bitter rivalry.

"It was a great victory against the top-ranked challenger," Barrera said. "Now I'll take a break, and see what my promoter, Oscar de la Hoya, decides."

Asked if he would be ready to take on Morales for a fourth time, Barrera said: "If that's what the fans want, I'm here."

With his first title defense behind him, Barrera could go for a hefty payday by taking a rematch against Manny Pacquiao. *AFP*

Murad's legal gobbledygook

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

BOXER Manny Pacquiao should do professional boxing some good by getting rid of his glib-tongued and wily American promoter Murad Muhammad. I will even agree with Pacquiao's plan to file charges against Murad for failing to turn over his share from the pay-per-view sales of his recent classic fight against Mexico's Erik Morales.

Murad reportedly earned about $2.8 million from the PPV sales for just doing the talking, while Pacquiao got nothing for fighting atop the ring, risking life and limb. Where is justice and fairness here?

"A promoter should not earn more than the boxer," said Pacquiao's noted American trainer Freddie Roach. "That's horrible. That should not be the case."

"*Bakit wala si* Pacquiao *sa* PPV contract?" asked veteran boxing man Hermie Rivera in a recent television interview. "Why did Pacquiao's people allow this travesty to happen? Aren't boxers supposed to enjoy the protection of the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act?"

In my case, I feel I have done my duty as a watchdog for boxing by warning the public about the "dangers" of dealing with Murad even though at the start there were too few of us who cared to listen and far too many of them, including some media members who are apologists for boxing, who got hooked on Murad.

No amount of legal maneuverings by Murad and his spin doctors could erase the fact that Pacquiao did not earn from the PPV proceeds. It's as simple as that.

The issue here is no longer legal, but moral. The unfair treatment that Pacquiao received for reasons not of his own making, is a matter that should be defended, if not as a legal obligation then as the right and civilized thing to do.

There is no question that Pacquiao was paid a hefty purse ($1.75 million) for fighting Morales, but it is also true that he did not earn a single centavo from the PPV sales. Morales reportedly got 40 percent of the PPV share, Bob Arum of Top Rank, who also handles Morales, 20 percent; and Murad, 40 percent which was supposed to go to his boxer, Pacquiao. Clearly, Pacquiao was a victim of a rip-off.

***

RP POOL PROS DID US PROUD. First it was Davao City's Gandy Valle, who won the opener of the four-leg San Miguel Beer Asian 9-Ball Tour in Singapore last March 6. Then on April 3 in Jakarta, Efren "Bata" Reyes of Angeles City took the second leg, proving once again that the Filipino pool pro is tops in the sport of billiards.

Yesterday another local hero, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, won the A Mild International Open in Bali, Indonesia, nosing out former world champion Mika Immonen of Finland, 11-10, in a nail-biting finals. It was the second major victory in Asia for Bustamante after he earlier topped the Hope P1 million All-Filipino Open in Manila.

The twin victories of Valle and Reyes in the Asian Tour also proved my prediction right. On April 1, I wrote that the Filipinos will be winners again this year. The local players did not disappoint as they won the first two legs mainly on form and their vast experience. It is now safe to say that they are on the way to dominating this year's Asian series.

In 2004 Reyes, dominated the Tour, winning three legs of the five-leg circuit. His recent one-sided 11-6 win over world-ranked Yang Ching-shun in Jakarta only showed that the 50-year-old Reyes is far from being a wash-up and disproved loose talks that his best years are well behind him.

The 2005 Asian Tour, organized by ESPN Star Sports, resumes on April 29-May 1 in Kaoshiung and winds up on June 3-5 in Manila.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

INDON Ananda Mikola (right) starts to widen his lead over the rest of the field in the first lap. Inset, Mikola (center) holds his trophies at the podium with runner-up Christian Jones (left) and third-placer John O'Hara. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mikola takes it in style

By Musong R. Castillo

ROSARIO, Batangas—Driving an imperfect car perfectly, Ananda Mikola dominated the first leg of the 2005 Addict Mobile Asian Formula 3 Super Prix in wire-to-wire style over Christian Jones yesterday.

AF3 2005 www.asianf3.net Creating Racing Heroes

The 26-year-old Indonesian speed demon flew out of the pole and expertly held off the Australian Jones to pick up 20 points for the win on a Batangas Racing Circuit track he's not comfortable with.

"Maybe if they make it wider and smoother, I'll start to like it," said Mikola, who drove a Farston Racing with Threebond car handsomely painted blue, white and black, in jest. "It's just not a track of my preference."

Egged on by a modest-sized Indon crowd, Mikola bucked a slight mechanical problem during the race. He said he felt his car start to over-steer a bit from the sixth lap, where he led Jones by as much as two seconds.

Jones tried to pass Mikola on the third straight of the 13th lap but the Indon wouldn't yield.

"I definitely had hopes that I could pass him," said Jones, the defending champion driving for the Christian Jones Academy. "That was exciting and I tried really hard. Doing the quickest lap in the race was an encouraging sign, though."

Jones, who has stayed in the country for the better part of the last two years and drives with a Philippine license, clocked 1 minute 23.681 seconds in lap No. 6 for the day's quickest time.

Mikola, twice a winner in his native Indonesia last year, timed 40:54.149 for the 15-lap race over the 3.4-kilometer track, reaching speeds of over 240 kph.

The Philippine challenge never got off the ground as Team Goddard-Minardi Team Asia's Dado Peña, third on the grid, lost his position to John O'Hara after a bad start and never made ground.

James Winslow of Britain was fifth, while Rodolfo Avila of Macau checked in sixth. Former champion Pepon Marave was badly outclassed, finishing in the seventh spot, 49.534 seconds off the pace.

O'Hara checked in close to 14 seconds off Jones and rued his chances in the second race late yesterday. He said the cars of Mikola and Jones are far superior.

"I'm satisfied that I got the best out of my car," said O'Hara, runner-up to Jones in last year's series. "We have to make improvements for China (venue of legs 3 and 4)."

The second race for the day will have the drivers starting on the grid from their respective orders of finish in the first race.

SpeedTech Asia's Tyson Sy stalled on the grid at fifth place and fell as far as half-a-lap back. He finished ninth.

"It was a case of first-race jitters," said Pastor Boy Saycon, the 17-year-old Sy's coach. "Hopefully, he'll have none of that in the second race."

John Marcelo, racing in the Promotion class, did not start at all after his car conked out while heading to the grid for the warm-up lap because of a fuel pump problem.

Marcelo would have started 11th overall and third in the Promotion class behind eventual winner Moreno Soeprapto of Indonesia and third-placer Irishman Greg Murphy.

Enzo Pastor was the only Filipino who made it to the podium in Race 1, finishing 10th overall in 14 laps for second place in the Promotion class.

The circuit is backed by Addict Mobile, Yokohama, Boysen, Motolite, PLDT MyPAD (www.pldtmypad.com) and Lima City Hotel, and has Jam 88.3, Magic 89.9, 99,5 RT, 103.5 KLite and Wave 89.1 as media partners.

Enthusiasts can watch the races in real time by logging on to www.pldtmypad.com and www.asianf3.net.

GM Mariano, Gonzales bag crucial draws

FILIPINO Grandmaster Nelson Mariano II and International Master Jayson Gonzales settled for draws against separate rivals to remain in contention after six rounds of the 7th Dubai International Open Chess Championships Sheikh Rashed Bin Hamdam Al Maktou Cup late Saturday at the Dubai Chess and Culture Club in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Mariano halved the point with GM Mohamad Al-Modiahki of Qatar after 54 moves of a Sicilian Defense, Chameleon variation, to up his total to 4.0 points and share 18th to 40th places.

Gonzales also split the point with Super GM Mikhail Kobalia (ELO 2644) of Russia after 36 moves of an Old Indian Defense to hike his score to 3.5 points.

Dubai-based Filipino Tony Molina beat Fide Master Ishaq Saeed of UAE to score 3.0 points.

Lone Filipina entry WIM Cristine Rose Mariano finally earned her full point but only via a bye in the main draw to improve her record to 1.5 points in this week-long tournament. *Marlon Bernardino, contributor*

BEFORE AFTER

Are you thinning? Are you receding? Are you bald? We have the permanent solution!!! It's natural looking, it grows, it's your own hair, the only maintenance you need is a monthly haircut.

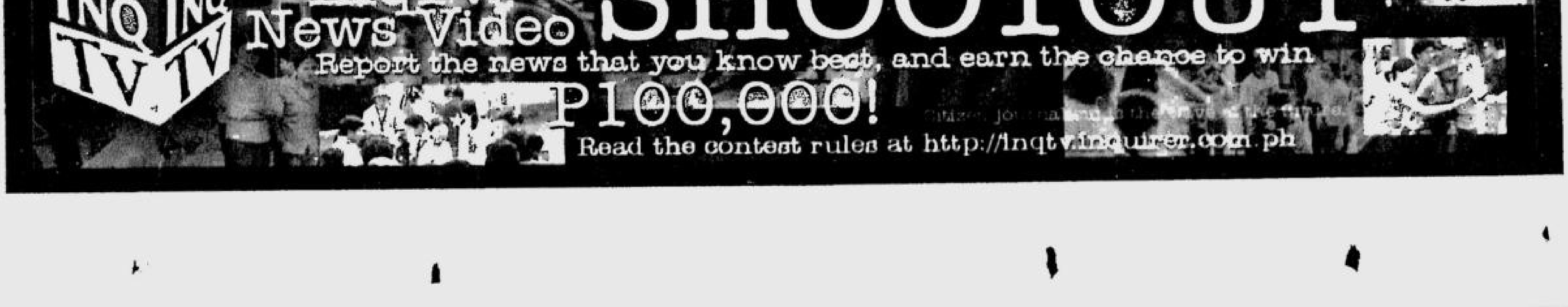
Andrew G. Pineda M.D.
• Beverly Hills-trained Hair Transplant surgeon
• Surgical or Medical solutions to your hair loss problems
MANILA 8130691 • DAVAO 2212682
www.pinedahair.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER TV GUIDE
Monday, April 11, 2005

ABANGAN!
May Tama kaya Mas Mali!
ABC
ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema				Showbiz No. 1 (4:25.PM)	Gatekeepers (5.10.PM)	Gundam Seed (5.35.PM)	The Road To Stardom	TV Patrol		Krystala	Hiram	Spirits	Kamao	Save The Last Dance For Me	OK Fine! Whatever			Insider
ABC 5			Problema Nyo, Sagot Ko	EZ Shop	Anime Ring Kaisho				Sentro	Friends	The Apprentice		Fear Factor		Big News	Pops!		Billboard On-Air	
GMA 7		Saang Sulok Ng Langit	Joyride	Glass Shoes	One Piece	Knock Out	Tylor Hungry Heart	24 Oras		Extra Challenge		Dama		Full House	Stairway To Heaven	Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita			Saksi
RPN 9		Metro TV Shopping	Defenders Of The Earth	Hey Arnold!	As Told By Ginger	Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	Scare Tactics	The Ring	Infamous Murders	NBA On RPN					Newswatch Now	Sex & the City		
IBC 13		Lifestyle		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Lifestyle		Home Shopping Network		The Hope World Pool					IBC News Tonite	Linawin Natin	
JackTV		Wow		Stamball		Restol	Zeta Project	Mucha Lucha!	Spiderman	Stargate SG1		Witchblade		Twilight Zone		WWE PPV			
Nickelodeon	Blues Clues	Rugrats	The Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd	The Amanda Show	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	As Told By Ginger	Nick Mix						Rugrats
MYX		Urban MYX		Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Mellow MYX	Rock MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	OPM MYX Countdown		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC		Complete Savages	Knock First	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Elimidate	Change of Heart	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	Friends	Will & Grace	The O.C.		Queer eye For The Straight Guy		Entertainment Tonight Weekend		Temptation Island	
Cinema One		Tag-ulan, Tag-araw				Saan Nagtatago Ang Pag-ibig				Anak ni Boy Negro				Not One Less				Bayong Mañalac (Hoodlum Terminator)	
Studio 23		Urban MYX	Rock MYX	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	Ragnarok	Project Arms	Wazzup Wazzup	Fightbox	Jake 2.0		Charmed		News Central	The West Wing		Travel Time
AXN		Lost		The Contender		Hollywood's Greatest Stunts	E Buzz	7 Days (Season III)		Pensacola (Season III)		Fear Factor (Season V)		The Contender		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami	
Star World	Weird TV	The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Home Improvement	Ally McBeal		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	The King Of Queens	Everybody Loves Raymond/ Still Standing	Grounded For Life	Frasier	The Casino/Boston Public		Friends	The King Of Queens
CNN				Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News Asia		World News	Living Golf	World News Asia		World News	World Sport
National Geographic		Built For The Kill		Totally Wild	Wildlife Diary	Be The Creature		The Snake Wranglers	Croc Chronicles With Dr. Brady Barr	Wow		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials Mission: Battle Of The Arctic Giants		Built For The Kill/Into The Lost World		Totally Wild	Wildlife Diary
Solar Sports	In This Corner		IBF Yonex Japan Open '05		Mitsubishi Lancer Int'l. Jr. Tennis C'ship Finals				GWS Ep.14-2005	Sagupaan		NBA Jam L920	NBA TV Daily	NBA Game: Charlotte @ Memphis					NBA Inside Stuff
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Decorating With Style	Decorating Cents	Molto Mario	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Food 911	E! True Hollywood Story		Behind The Velvet Ropes	Life & Style		Brini Maxwell Show	Modern Girl's Guide	Breathing Room	Genuine Article
HBO	Quick Change			Head Of State			Fatal Woman (5.40 PM)				Maximum Risk (7.20 PM)			Phantom Force			The Craft (10.25PM)		
Star Movies				The In-Laws			Comic Book Villains (5:45 PM)				Alex & Emma (7.20 PM)			Casino					Dorian (aka Pact with the Devil)
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	The Woody Woodpecker Show	Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	X-Men Evolution	Static Shock	Gundam Wing	Shaman King	The Looney Tunes Show		The Powerpuff Girls	Dexter's Laboratory	Time Squad	Thundercats	He-Man & The Masters Of The Universe	Gundam Seed
ESPN	Winter X Games IX-Day1 Pt1 Mt. Aspen Co. USA			UCA Nat'l High School Cheerleading C'ship FL USA		Spanish Football League 2004/05			Winter X Games VIII Classic Moto X, Co, USA				Premier Snooker League '04 Cardiff Wales						
Disney Channel	Mr Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	The Sleepover Club	Art Attack/Un-talkative Bunny	Buzz Lightyear Of Star Command	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	House Of Mouse	Wonderful World Of Disney			My Wife And Kids	That's So Raven	America's Funniest Home Video	According To Jim	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax			My Geisha				The Long Run			King Kong Lives (7.15 PM)				The Core				The Dentist (11.15PM)	
Hallmark Channel	Who's The Boss	Just Cause		HCA: The Fairytaler	Sesame Street		Mad About You	Who's The Boss	Bewitched	The District		Wife Swap		Mike Bassett: England Manager			Just Cause (10:35PM)		The District (11.25PM)
Discovery Channel		American Chopper		Extreme Machines		Wild Science		Ultimate Discovery		Unsolved History				Wild Discovery		Ultimate Discovery		Civilisations	
Sports Plus						Inside the PGA	You've Got to See This	Raceworld		Italia Seria A highlights 11		Italia Seria A				This Is The PGA Tour		Bell South Classic Highlights	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



INQ TV
The InqTV News Video SHOOTOUT
Report the news that you know best, and earn the chance to win P100,000!
Read the contest rules at http://inqtv.inquirer.com.ph

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA
632-9115/16

1 BE COOL • THX
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
11:00 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

3 HIDE AND SEEK
10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

4 CLOSER
10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

5 SAHARA
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

7 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview

8 BOOGEYMAN
1:10 3:25 5:40 7:55 10:00

9 THE PACIFIER
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

10 ASTERIX AND OBELIX
12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:40

ERMITA
536-7809 to 12

1 CLOSER
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 SAHARA
11:10 1:40 4:15 6:55 9:40

3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
10:30 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00

4 BOOGEYMAN
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

5 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview

6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
10:20 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00

7 HIDE AND SEEK
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

METRO EAST
682-8193 • 682-8199

1 BOOGEYMAN
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
11:20 1:40 6:30 9:00

3 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview

4 CLOSER
11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10

5 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 8:50 10:30

6 SAHARA
11:50 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30

7 THE PACIFIER
10:50 1:10 3:30 5:50 8:10 10:30

8 HIDE AND SEEK
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

NOVALICHES
935-3229/31

1 CLOSER
11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

2 BOOGEYMAN
11:00 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25

3 HIDE AND SEEK
10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30

5 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview

6 SAHARA
11:50 2:40 5:30 8:25

7 RESERVE

8 RESERVE

PIONEER
687-5378

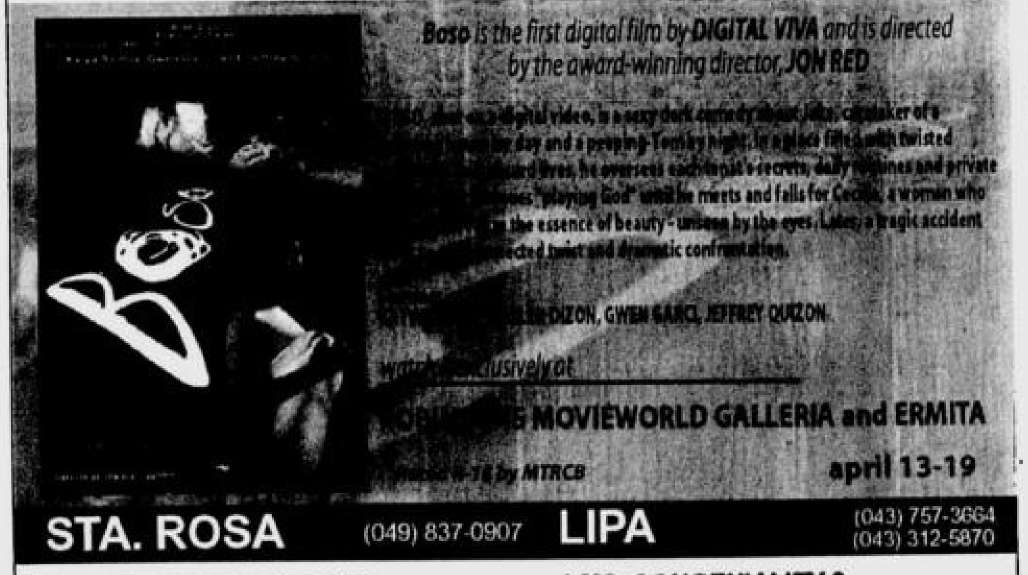
1 SAHARA
2 HIDE AND SEEK
3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4 CLOSER

CITISQUARE MALABON
288-2575

1 SON OF THE MASK 2
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS
4 ROOM SERVICE

CAINTA
240-4661

1 THE PACIFIER
2 HIDE AND SEEK
3 SAHARA
4 CLOSER



Boso is the first digital film by ***DIGITAL VIVA*** *and is directed by the award-winning director,* ***JON RED***

[illegible] digital video, is a sexy dark comedy about Jake, caretaker of a [illegible] by day and a peeping-Tom by night. In a place filled with twisted [illegible] lives, he oversees each tenant's secrets, daily routines and private [illegible] "playing God" until he meets and falls for Cecilia, a woman who [illegible] the essence of beauty - unseen by the eyes. Later, a tragic accident [illegible] expected twist and dramatic confrontation.

[illegible] DIZON, GWEN GARCI, JEFFREY QUIZON

watch [illegible] exclusively at

[illegible] MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA and ERMITA

[illegible] by MTRCB

april 13-19

STA. ROSA
(049) 837-0907

1 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
2 SAHARA
3 BE COOL
4 ROBOTS
5 HOSTAGE

LIPA
(043) 757-3664
(043) 312-5870

1 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2 CONFIDENCE
3 NANG NAK
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 CURSED

DASMARIÑAS
(046) 852-2125
(046) 416-4332

1 CLOSER
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 THE PACIFIER
4 5 CHILDREN AND IT
5 MS. CONGENIALITY 2

ANGELES
(045) 892-2348

1 CURSED
2 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
3 CONFIDENCE
4 HOSTAGE

IMUS
(046) 875-[illegible]
(046) 471 [illegible]

1 HIDE AND SEEK
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
4 THE PACIFIER
5 CLOSER
6 SAHARA

STARMILLS
(045) 875-1927
(045) 961 5270

1 HAROLD AND KUMAR
2 NANG NAK
3 HOSTAGE
4 ALONE IN THE DARK
5 CURSED
6 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD

BACOLOD
(034) 441 [illegible]
(034) 441 [illegible]

1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2 HOSTAGE
3 HITCH
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 NANG NAK
6 SON OF THE MASK 2

ILOILO
(033) 336-8070

1 HOSTAGE
2 THE FINAL CUT
3 CURSED
4 HITCH
5 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
6 MILLION DOLLAR BABY

MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS

The Perfect Gift All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call: Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

TIMEZONE celebrates DISNEY

POWERCARD
POWERCARD
POWERCARD
POWERCARD

NOW ONLY P200!!!

LIMITED RELEASE [April 2005 only] COLLECTIBLE, NON-RELOADABLE

These collectible Powercards are available for P200. This shall be inclusive of P175 worth of game load plus 5 free games. These designs are available only for the month of April.

COLLECT THEM ALL!

© Disney

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
Anson Emporium Appliance Madness April 8-18, 2005	Star Cinema's CAN THIS BE LOVE Mall Show April 10, 2005	Sign Language Association in Cebu Inc.'s Culminating Activity April 10, 2005

AYALA GREENBELT

Ad Congress Party
April 14, 2005

GREENBELT 1 Onstage AYALA CINEMAS

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents
Whose Wife is it Anyway?
at REP's GLOBE THEATER for the Month of April
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.
For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

AYALA CINEMAS

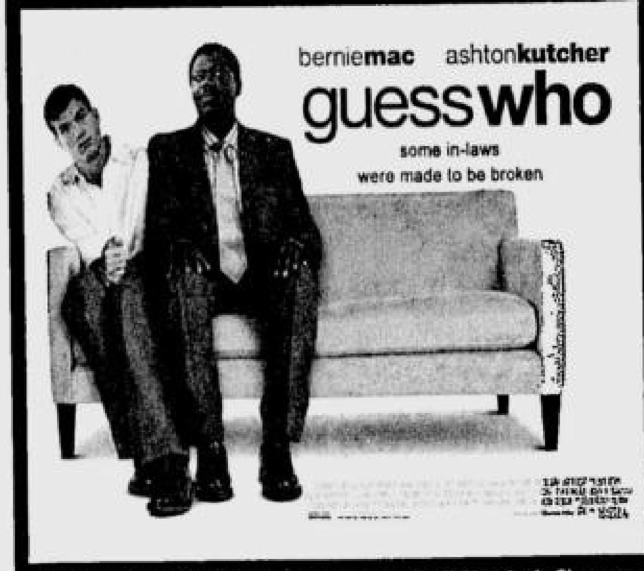
AYALA CINEMAS — THX CERTIFIED CINEMA

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS GB4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 GUESS WHO	2 HIDE & SEEK	3 SAHARA	4 CLOSER	
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 GUESS WHO	2 HIDE & SEEK	3 THX SAHARA 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	4 CLOSER	5 BE COOL	6 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS	7 THE PACIFIER	
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 HIDE & SEEK 11:35, 1:55, 4:00, 6:35, 9:00	2 SAHARA 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00,9:40			
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX GUESS WHO 2:00, 4:15, 6:30, 8:45, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SAHARA 12:50, 3:30, 5:10, 8:50, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS			
	3 CLOSER 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 HIDE & SEEK 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 8:55, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS		
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX GUESS WHO	2 SAHARA			
	3 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS	4 CLOSER	5 HIDE & SEEK		
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 SAHARA	2 SPANGLISH	3 CONFIDENCE	4 RACING STRIPES	

AYALA CINEMAS

sneak preview
APRIL 11 & 12
ALABANG TOWN CENTER • GLORIETTA 1 & 4
GREENBELT 3 • MARKET MARKET



MTRCB Rating: PG-13 / Regular run begins April 29 at Ayala Cinemas

Onstage — AYALA CINEMAS

Onstage Greenbelt in Ayala Center, Makati City is now accepting bookings for concerts, product launches and other corporate events for May to July 2005.

For bookings, please call Lissa at 752 7862

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!
The fun is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00
① Closer
② Ms. Congeniality 2
③ Boogeyman
④ The Pacifier

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00
⑤ Hide & Seek
⑥ Sahara
⑦ SpongeBob Squarepants

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7515

EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET!
The fun is in the finds

SALE! SALE!

TIME TO HARVEST THE BEST DEALS

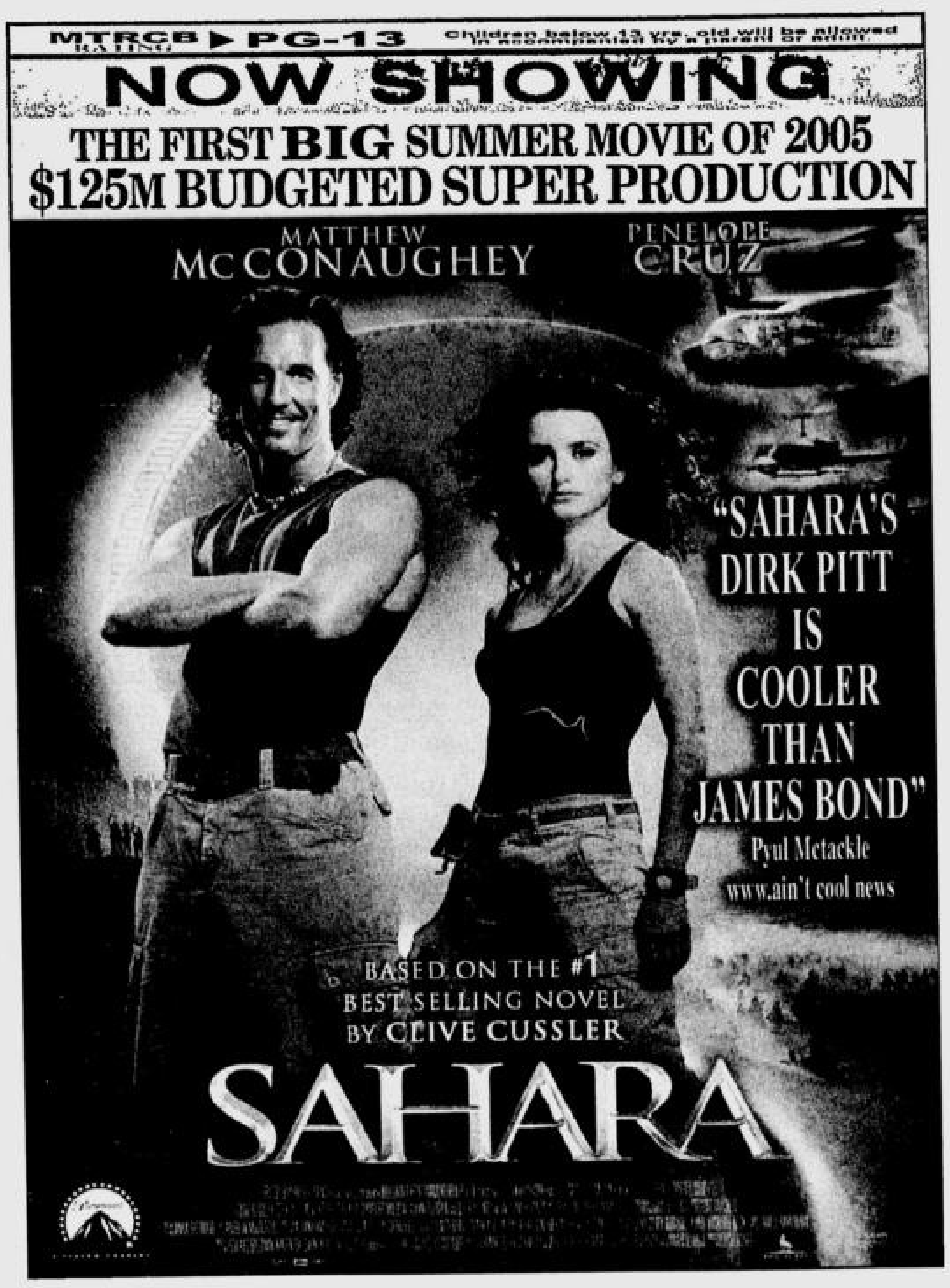
April 15-16 10am-12midnight
April 17 10am-9pm

Special Events:

April 15
Star Records presents
Michael Cruz & Johann Escañan
6 pm, Activity Center

April 16
Axe: Choose the Girl, Spend Her Money
11am-6pm, Activity Center

April 17 to 20
GO F.I.S.H. Bazaar
11am-9pm, Activity Center


MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.

NOW SHOWING

THE FIRST BIG SUMMER MOVIE OF 2005
$125M BUDGETED SUPER PRODUCTION

MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY
PENELOPE CRUZ

"SAHARA'S DIRK PITT IS COOLER THAN JAMES BOND"
Pyul Mctackle
www.ain't cool news

BASED ON THE #1 BEST SELLING NOVEL BY CLIVE CUSSLER

SAHARA

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.

OPENS APRIL 20

A SPECTACULAR GIANT EPIC
NON-STOP ACTION, STUNNING VISUAL EFFECTS
AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

The Nordic legend that inspired J.R.R. TOLKIEN to write
THE LORD OF THE RINGS TRILOGY

KRISTANNA LØKEN
(STAR OF TERMINATOR 3)

RING OF THE NIBELUNGS

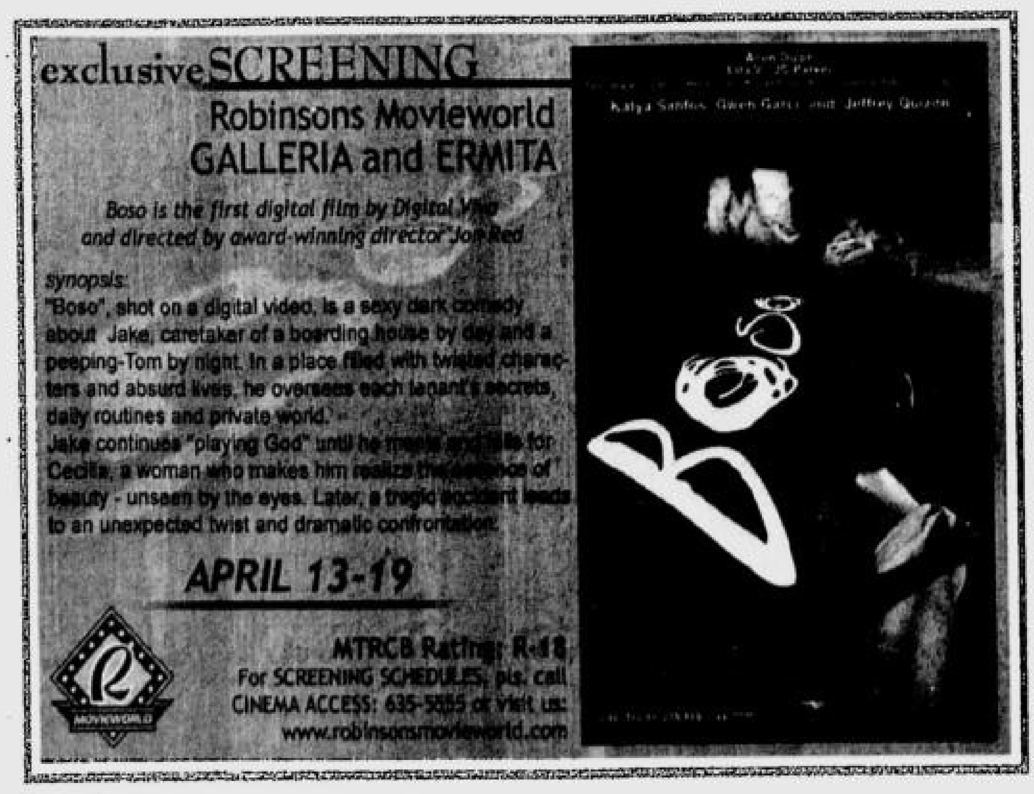
SNEAK PREVIEWS TODAY!

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

His daughter's Mr. Right just turned out to be...
Mr. White.

berniemac ashton kutcher
guesswho

OPENS APRIL 20


exclusive SCREENING
Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA and ERMITA

Boso is the first digital film by Digital Viva and directed by award-winning director Jon Red

synopsis:
"Boso", shot on a digital video, is a sexy dark comedy about Jake, caretaker of a boarding house by day and a peeping-Tom by night. In a place filled with twisted characters and absurd lives, he oversees each tenant's secrets, daily routines and private world.
Jake continues "playing God" until he meets and falls for Cecilia, a woman who makes him realize the essence of beauty - unseen by the eyes. Later, a tragic accident leads to an unexpected twist and dramatic confrontation.

APRIL 13-19

MTRCB Rating: R-18
For SCREENING SCHEDULES, pls. call
CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5855 or visit us:
www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

Katya Santos Gwen Garci and Jeffrey Quizon

Boso

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

SHE PAID HIM $6,000 TO BE HER DATE
AND GOT A-ONE-IN-A-MILLION LOVE AS BONUS.

DEBRA MESSING
DERMOT MULRONEY
The WEDDING DATE

VIVA

OPENS APRIL 13

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

RAMOS (third from left) and Drilon (fifth from left) lead fitness buffs along the new nature trail.

Petron inaugurates fitness, nature trail at La Mesa dam

PHYSICAL fitness amid a natural setting.

That, in a nutshell, is the mission of Petron Corp. when it inaugurated yesterday the country's first-ever fitness trail inside the La Mesa Watershed Ecological Park.

Led by former President Fidel V. Ramos, Petron chair Nicasio I. Alcantara and Petron president and CEO Khalid D. Al-Faddagh, VIPs formally opened the Petron Fitness and Nature Trail, a 1.2-km long pathway of solid and compact soil inside the Ecopark, where nature lovers and fitness buffs can jog and have a leisurely walk for free.

Joining the three were Senate President Franklin Drilon, Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte, former Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun, Petron Foundation's Marilou Erni and ABS-CBN Foundation's Gina Lopez.

"Fitness buffs and nature lovers need not go far to enjoy the value of a healthy lifestyle and appreciate the beauty of nature," said Alcantara.

ROAD TO TRIPLE CROWN

Real Spicy flaunts fiery form again

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

REAL Spicy proved he could also run solidly even under the sizzling afternoon sun.

Cheered on by the huge, perspiring crowd, the razor-sharp colt handily won the second leg of the 2005 Road to the Triple Crown and fortified his claim as the hottest bet for the coming three-leg series.

Ace jockey Pat Dilema tapped Real Spicy on the flank just once nearing the wire as the Hermie Esguerra galloper coasted to an eight-length victory in the 1,600-meter event at the Sta. Ana Park.

"*Ipinakita niya na kundisyon siya talaga* (He showed he's in top condition)," said Dilema after the easy victory that was in complete contrast to their Crown Prince Abdulaziz Cup triumph a week ago. "*Hindi niya alintana ang init. Sana huwag ito magbago.* (He wasn't bothered by the heat. I hope his form doesn't change)."

Real Spicy put the outcome beyond doubt at the half-mile post when he swooped past Vivere and stablemate War Alert. By the time he swung for home, his multitude of fans greeted him with a loud roar.

The three-year-old chestnut son of Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale picked up P450,000 for Esguerra. The winning time was 1 minute 40.8 seconds (24.5-25-24-28).

In Command took the battle for second spot, while Vivere finished third. War Alert and Golden Fantasy came in fourth and fifth, respectively.

Dilema wheeled Real Spicy behind Vivere and War Alert in the early going, completely aware his mount could pounce on the pacesetters with ease.

"*Alam ko kaya niya ang ayre, kaya alalay lang muna* (I knew he could handle the pace well, so I just bided my time)," added the 26-year-old, seven-time PSA Jockey of the Year awardee.

Esguerra received the winner's trophy from Philracom commissioner Eddie Jose, who represented chair Jimmy Dilag at the awards rites.

The first leg of this year's Triple Crown kicks off with the Cojuangco Cup on May 22, also at the Makati race venue.

Ateneo captures Chancellor's Cup

ATENEO flaunted its readiness for the UAAP battles by topping the women's event of the 7th UP Chancellor's Cup Table Tennis National Open Saturday at the UP gym.

The Lady Eagles, coached by Floyd Lobaton, pulled off a thrilling 3-2 upset of Where to Book, a team composed of former national players, in the finals.

Jeryl Moreno gave Where to Book its first win by beating Gea Tad-y, 3-1. But Ateneo's Rexanne Bianca responded with a 3-2 win over Beverly Villar to knot the count.

Aileen Armando, like Moreno a former mainstay of RP Team B, nipped Ateneo's Eva Orro to put the former nationals ahead, 2-1, before Tad-y overcame a sluggish start to beat Villar, 3-2, to tie the finals, 2-2.

Bianca then upset Moreno, 3-2, as the Lady Eagles completed the stunning upset.

"It was a great finish for us," said Lobaton.

AS-PAC QUALIFIER

Jungolf 3rd leg starts today

AFTER successive team formats, the Samsung Jungolf Tour reverts to individual play when the third leg is played starting today at the Tat Filipinas Golf Club in San Pedro, Laguna, and at the Riviera executive course in Silang, Cavite.

The 54-hole tournament serves as a qualifier to the Asia-Pacific championships this June in Korea with two slots each allotted for boys and girls in Class A (15-17 years) and Class B (13-14 years).

Jungolfers in classes A and B as well as those in Class C (11-12) and Class D (9-10) will play at Tat while Riviera will host those in Class E (7-8) and Class F (6 and under).

The youngsters are also expected to use the event to warm up for the centerpiece legs—which will serve as qualifying events for the Callaway Junior World competitions in San Diego, California—of the series also supported by Philippine Airlines and Samsung in the next two weeks.

It will be a grueling two-week elimination for the Junior World slots. Play starts at Canlubang and Riviera, and then moves on to Sherwood Hills and Riviera the following week.

Southwoods and Riviera shared top honors in the Jungolf National Club Championships at Mt. Malarayat and Aguinaldo, while the Reds dominated the Blues in Jungolf's version of the Ryder Cup at Camp John Hay in Baguio.

Sta. Elena hosts PIATA Golf Cup

MORE than 30 tickets to various destinations around the globe will be raffled off in the second PIATA (Philippine IATA Travel Agents Association) Golf Cup slated April 18 at the Sta. Elena Golf Club in Cabuyao, Laguna. Shotgun start is at 7:30 a.m.

Transnational Diversified Group is co-presenting the 18-hole tourney that is expected to be bigger than last year's event with the participation of more than 100 golfers from the travel industry, tourism sector and other special guests.

An Aveo car is the hole-in-one prize sponsored by Chevrolet Makati and Alabang and Pioneer Insurance. Aside from the many overseas trips and vacations, there will be trophies and prizes for the tournament winners in various divisions.

Major sponsors: Crystal Cruise Lines, Amadeus Marketing Phil. Inc, Philippine Airlines, Lufthansa German Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Qatar Airways, Air France/KLM, British Airways, Thai International, Asiana, Galileo Asia, DHL Worldwide Express Phil. Corp. and Smart Communications.

Other sponsors: China Airlines, Japan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific Airways, Eva Air, Continental Airlines, Cebu Pacific, Air Macau, Golf King, Marsman Drysdale, Kuoni Travel Ltd., Teledata, Suarez & Sons, Montemar Beach Club, Philcomsat, Prudential Life, GG&A, ABS-CBN, Abacus Distribution System, Sunbolt Sports Drink, Clark Airport Support Services Corp., Pullman Tours, Sutera Harbour, Nivea, Figaro, KBS Travel, Macau Government Tourist Office, Vacation Asia Philippines and Pacsports.

For inquiries, call 832-0901.

Filcobra grand finals under way

THE FIRST round eliminations of the Filcobra Grand Championship 5-Cock Derby sizzles today at Roligon Mega Cockpit with more than 50 matches on tap. Two-time world champion William Go, Rep. Ompong Plaza, Rey Briones, Nelson Uy, ASF Farms, Riochi Saito and Boy Valenzuela are hosts of the event which will have its second round on Wednesday. Highlight of the derby is the coronation of the Filcobra Cocker of the Year after the championship round on Saturday. The top five contenders are Darwin Torres (DJ Sherwin, 17 points); Philip Chiongbian and Edmund Yasay (Wild Na Wild, 16.5); Benny Lado (Black Alabat, 16); ASF Group (AS Alpha Siera, 15.5), and Col. Tabique (Joy Joy, 15). For inquiries, call 833-2275, 833-1638 or 852-9812.

MICROVAN

(02) 984-0278/79

MEGA SALE!
on April 22, 2005 • STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

JOIN THE UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION OF

AIM AUCTION IN MALINTA

TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS

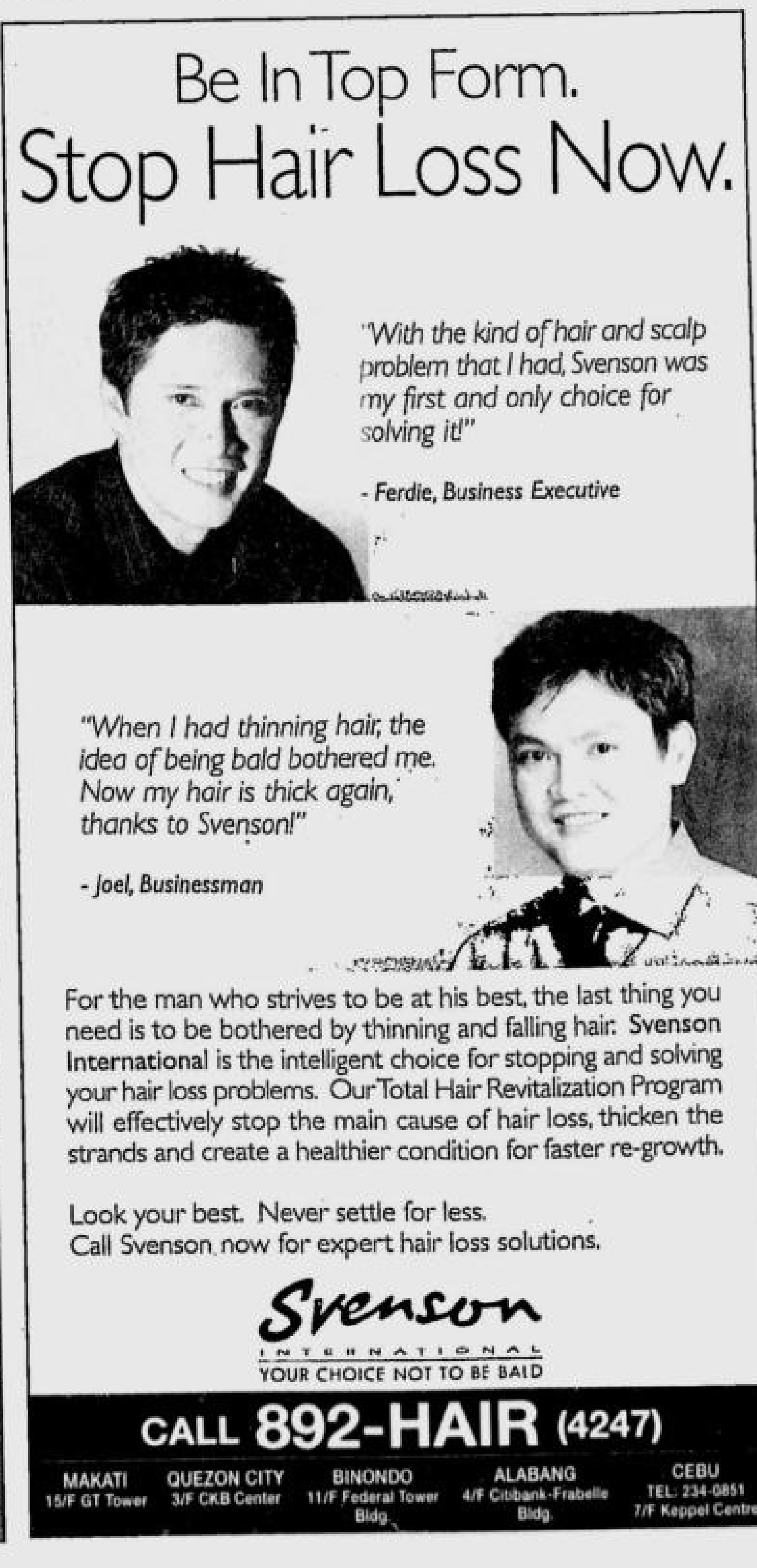
On these dates:
APR. 22 - 25, 2005
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

Inspection dates:
APR. 16 - 21, 2005

For inquiries please call:
(02)984-6741 • (02)984-6753 • (02)984-0215/16

Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. • Tel (02) 858-8888

Email us: info@auctioninmalinta.com • Visit our website: www.auctioninmalinta.com



Be In Top Form.
Stop Hair Loss Now.

"With the kind of hair and scalp problem that I had, Svenson was my first and only choice for solving it!"
- Ferdie, Business Executive

"When I had thinning hair, the idea of being bald bothered me. Now my hair is thick again, thanks to Svenson!"
- Joel, Businessman

For the man who strives to be at his best, the last thing you need is to be bothered by thinning and falling hair. Svenson International is the intelligent choice for stopping and solving your hair loss problems. Our Total Hair Revitalization Program will effectively stop the main cause of hair loss, thicken the strands and create a healthier condition for faster re-growth.

Look your best. Never settle for less.
Call Svenson now for expert hair loss solutions.

Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

CALL 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI 15/F GT Tower
QUEZON CITY 3/F CKB Center
BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg.
ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.
CEBU TEL: 234-0851 7/F Keppel Centre

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Since 1960
Union 45 years
ELECTRIC FANS
Basta Tibay! Yun Yan!

WHAT'S INSIDE
- Viewfinder on 'Darna' takeoff /A2-3
- 'Sahara' crammed with eye candy /A2-2
- How Ara Mina mends her broken heart /A2-4
- 'Desperate Housewives' very angry, too /A2-4

This post-prod firm's OK

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

Roadrunner admits 'having difficulty servicing the film industry,' though

RESPONDING to INQUIRER Entertainment's story, "Looks like serious trouble for top 2 post-prod firms" (March 31), Dodie Lucas, managing director of the award-winning post-production house Roadrunner, sent a rejoinder denying that the company is facing a financial crisis.

In the statement dated March 31, Lucas, however, conceded: "We are having a hard time making a profitable business out of servicing the local film industry."

He explained: "Film industry business, though significant to us, [represent only] 30 percent of total revenues. The bulk... comes from advertising and a small, but... increasing portion of foreign sales."

In short, "Our film division has no capability of dragging us down."

Just the same, Lucas acknowledged that his company was "concerned" about the film industry. From an all-time high of three Filipino movies opening per week, now there's only an average of one per month.'

On account of this crisis, Lucas said, Roadrunner was instituting "the usual" adjustments: restructuring costs, reviewing processes, rationalizing rates, tightening credit.

Beyond these standard solutions, the firm is introducing new technologies—like Digital Opticals and Trailers, Visual Special Effects (VFX), and DVD mastering—and has re-fitted its facilities with brand-new equipment "as... demonstration of our continuing commitment to the film industry."

Lucas pointed these out as proof that the company is far from being in dire straits.

Serious

Even as it smarts from the gossip, Roadrunner is not about to turn a blind eye on the apparent problems. All movie industry sectors should act as one in finding solutions, Lucas said.

A slew of serious concerns should be addressed immediately, he added—issues involving not just film artists and technicians, but also audiences, moviehouse owners and even movie reviewers.

Viewers and critics should mind the technical merits of a film, not just casting or acting and other traditional preoccupations.

Audience tastes need to be "uplifted" in this department, Lucas insisted.

New concepts and technologies are hard to sell, he said. "Surround Stereo was introduced nearly 10 years ago in Star Cinema's 'Pare Ko.' Yet most of our productions [to this day] are still in mono."

Dolby digital 5.1 was showcased in Star Cinema's "Feng Shui."

"Were there takers after that?" Lucas asked. "Only two ('Sigaw' and 'Spirit of the Glass'). By the way, Dolby digital 5.1 was available more than a year before 'Feng Shui.' We had done 60 film commercials before that first feature film!"

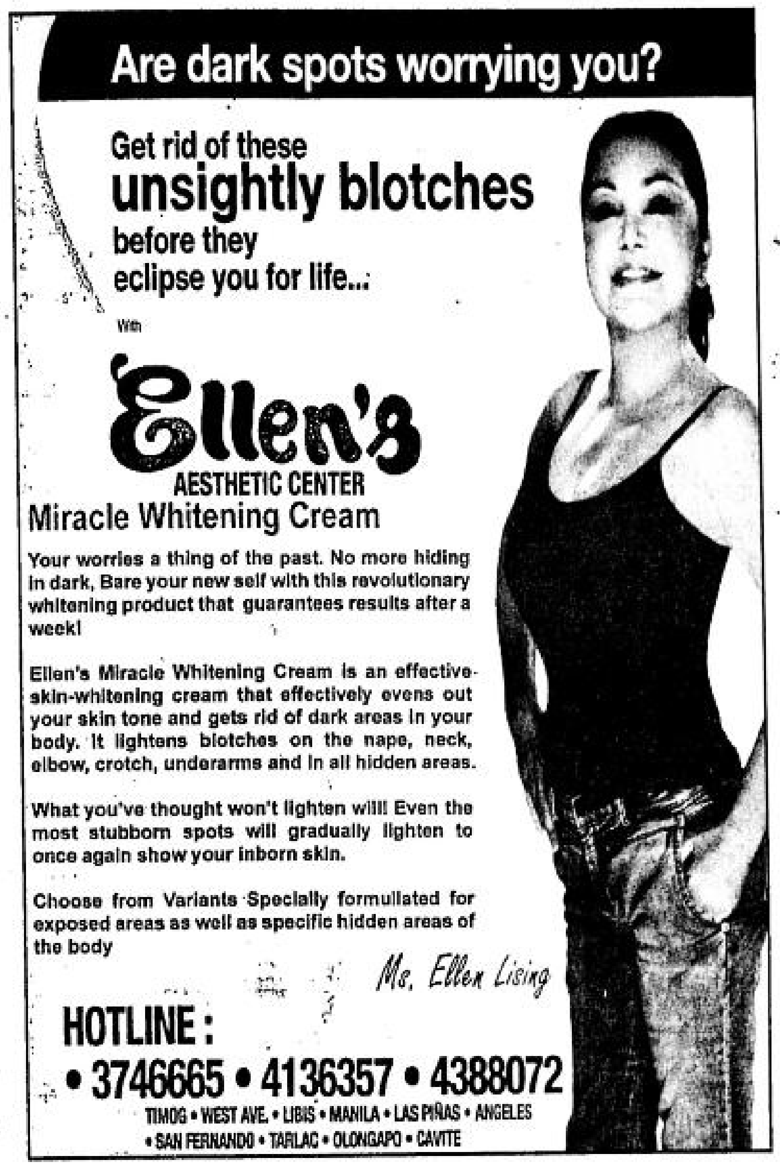
After over a decade in the industry, Roadrunner has won such awards as Best Sound Engineer for Albert Michael Idioma's work in "Jose Rizal" and "Muro-Ami."

In the last Metro Manila Film Festival, "Sigaw," whose post-prod was also done by Roadrunner, won Best Editing (Manet Dayrit) and Best Sound Recording (Arnold Reodica). Roadrunner was also cited for Best Visual Effects, for "Lastikman."

Another thorny issue is "governance and unity," Lucas noted. "Industry leaders should articulate and propagate a vision." Roadrunner intends to forge onwards, he stressed. "We'd love to have the local film industry, which we care so much about, to be there with us."

The other-top post-production company, LVN Pictures, is about to cease operations, according to concerned insiders.

INQUIRER Entertainment tried, but failed, to get the views of LVN execs.


Are dark spots worrying you?

Get rid of these unsightly blotches before they eclipse you for life...:

With Ellen's AESTHETIC CENTER Miracle Whitening Cream

Your worries a thing of the past. No more hiding in dark, Bare your new self with this revolutionary whitening product that guarantees results after a week!

Ellen's Miracle Whitening Cream is an effective skin-whitening cream that effectively evens out your skin tone and gets rid of dark areas in your body. It lightens blotches on the nape, neck, elbow, crotch, underarms and in all hidden areas.

What you've thought won't lighten will! Even the most stubborn spots will gradually lighten to once again show your inborn skin.

Choose from Variants Specially formulated for exposed areas as well as specific hidden areas of the body

Ms. Ellen Lising

HOTLINE:
• 3746665 • 4136357 • 4388072
TIMOG • WEST AVE. • LIBIS • MANILA • LAS PIÑAS • ANGELES
• SAN FERNANDO • TARLAC • OLONGAPO • CAVITE

NEW KOREAN TELENOVELA Starting today, on ABS-CBN's Primetime Bida daily, two new Korean telenovelas—"Stained Glass" and "Memories of Bali" (in photo). From the producers of "Lovers in Paris" and "Sunshine of Love," "Bali" tells the story of heartbroken young people. Today also starts the final week of Ch 2's fantaserye, "Krystala," with the stage set for a final confrontation between the forces of good and evil.

LET'S FACE IT
THE ONE STOP FACIAL SALON

- Prevents skin damage caused by sun such as melanin formation or discoloration
- Helps support collagen formation making your skin firmer & healthier
- Diminishes imperfections & whitens the skin

Vitamin C
Facial Mask

NOW OPEN: CITY MALL, OLONGAPO & ROBINSONS PIONEER, MANDALUYONG TEL.: 687-6342
SOON TO OPEN: CORBYAT BLDG. LIBIS

Viva Films' gamble pays off with 'Boso'

By Neil Ray Ramos
Contributor

LOOKS like Viva Film's gamble has paid off.

"Rising production costs and dwindling box-office receipts" reportedly prompted Viva Films to consider using other media to make feature films.

Judging from the size and reaction of the audience that trooped to the University of the Philippines Film theater on Tuesday to watch "Boso"—Viva's first movie shot entirely on digital video—the producers may have struck gold.

"Boso" is directed by multi-awarded filmmaker Jon Red (yes, Raymond's brother) who made the 1993 cult favorite "Trip," which won an Urian award and was named Best Short Film by the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

"Boso" is not Red's first work on the digital format; it follows "ASTIGmatism," starring Robin Padilla.

Jerky

Although Boso has the same quirky, "amateurish" vibe in most of Red's early works, Boso is surprisingly entertaining.

"The jerky camera work is intentional," said Red. "I want the audience to feel as if they are one with the Peeping Tom."

"Boso" ("peep" in English] tells the story of Jake (Epi Quizon), caretaker in a lodging house who spies on the tenants, watching them "like God" through holes in the ceiling.

As the title implies, "Boso" offers a fair amount of flesh-baring.

"What you saw was the unrated version," Red said.

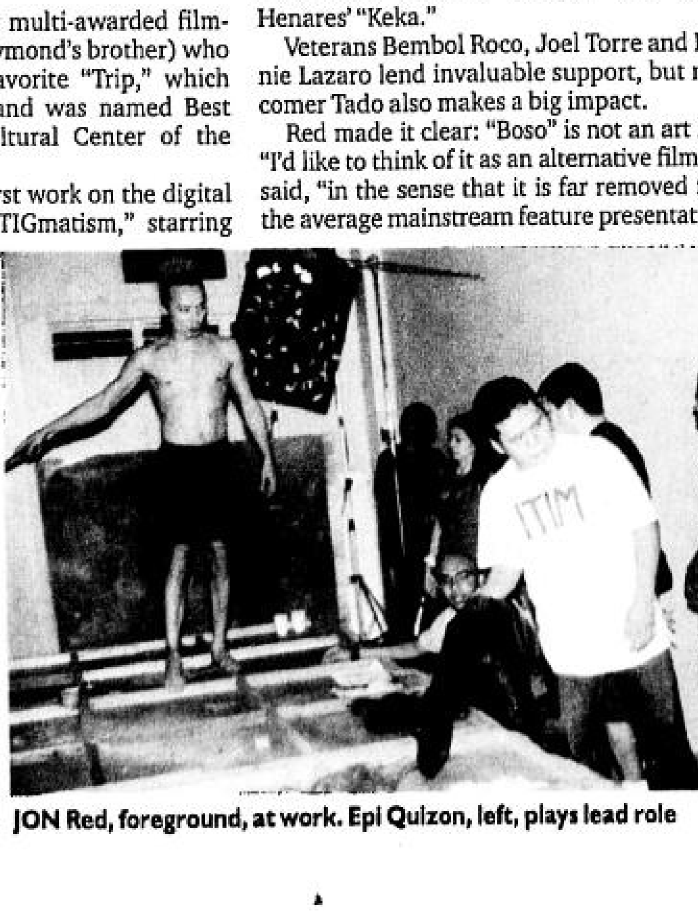
Good job

Epi Quizon, known for diving into peculiar roles with gusto, delivers another fine performance here.

Katya Santos stars as Jake's obsession. Katya has previously appeared in two indie films—Yam Laranas' "Radyo" and Quark Henares' "Keka."

Veterans Bembol Roco, Joel Torre and Ronnie Lazaro lend invaluable support, but newcomer Tado also makes a big impact.

Red made it clear: "Boso" is not an art film. "I'd like to think of it as an alternative film," he said, "in the sense that it is far removed from the average mainstream feature presentation."



JON Red, foreground, at work. Epi Quizon, left, plays lead role

ALAM MO ANAK, ITO YUNG LAGI KONG DALA NUNG BATA PA AKO.
BAON NIYA YAN NUNG NAG-LITTLE MS. PHILIPPINES SIYA...
Magnolia
CHOCOLAIT
ONE OF THE FEW THINGS YOU'D LOVE TO SHARE WITH YOUR KIDS. THE CREAMY CHOCOLAITY TASTE OF THE ORIGINAL CHOCOLAIT!

Eye candy in a popcorn movie

Even the bad guys look good; no wonder the two lead stars fell in love on the set

McCONAUGHEY and Cruz perfect equals in the beauty department

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLYWOOD.COM

NEW YORK—"Sahara" feels like it's jammed with more stuff—characters, plot lines, sight gags, explosions, buddy banter and the romantic flutter of gorgeous people falling in love—than there are grains of sand in the desert.

It's an overlong (if occasionally thrilling) environmentally conscious retread of an Indiana Jones flick, complete with a character who's overly attached to his hat.

But mainly it's a popcorn movie that's crammed with eye candy: As Dirk Pitt, hero of the Clive Cussler novel on which "Sahara" is based, Matthew McConaughey's tan gets darker, his biceps grow bigger and his teeth brighten to a blinding white even as he propels himself deeper into danger.

Every bit his equal in the looks department is Penelope Cruz, who appears to have stepped straight from one of her own Ralph Lauren ads no matter the predicament in which she finds herself. Formfitting khakis, tight tank tops and fashionably rumpled denim button-downs are the uniform when you're Dr. Eva Rojas from the World Health Organization.

It's no wonder these two stars reportedly fell in love on the set. How could they help themselves?

Even the bad guys are good-looking in "Sahara." Lambert Wilson, as French industrialist Yves Massarde, dresses and carries himself as if he were a model, too, even though he's doing something dastardly involving toxic waste.

Confused? We'll break it down for you, because a big, loud action movie shouldn't make you work so hard.

Insane coincidences

Dirk and his best pal, fellow explorer Al Giordino (Steve Zahn, cracking wise once again as the wacky sidekick), are hunting for a long-lost Civil War battleship carrying hidden treasure, which they believe ended up in West Africa. (William H. Macy brings the movie some weight as their cigar-chomping, order-barking boss.)

At the same time and in the same region, Eva and her partner, Dr. Hopper (Glynn Turman), are hunting for the cause of a mysterious plague that has afflicted untold numbers of people.

Gee, do you think their searches could be connected? It's an insane coincidence, but the first feature from director Breck Eisner (as in son-of-Michael) is chock full of them.

The two teams end up running into each other repeatedly, and while battling the unforgiving terrain—wide shots of which Eisner does capture beautifully—they also must fight sabotage attempts from a Malian warlord (Lennie James) and the aforementioned slick French industrialist.

Miraculously, Dirk, Al and Eva become expert camel riders, and in one sequence prove themselves so impossibly adept, they actually leap from the backs of their animals and onto the top of a speeding train.

But the onslaught from their enemies continues, in the form of numbing, nonstop gunfire. Cannon blasts and even an exploding helicopter eventually end up in the mix.

"I'm so sick of being shot at!" Al screams at one point.

And that's sort of the same sensation one experiences in the audience. *AP*

Ara Mina mends her broken heart

From page A2-4

She described herself as "not really [that] good, not like Regine Velasquez, who can reach all the high notes. But I can sing, and some people are shocked to know that. My breaks came from acting, so people forgot that I could sing."

She started singing when she was a young hopeful and a mainstay in German Moreno's ensemble television variety show "That's Entertainment." She has made an album, "Heavenly," under Star Records. But she admitted that it wasn't a hit, except for the barely-there pop number, "Ooops, Teka Lang."

For "The Soul Sisters Act," Ara said she would also tap into her experiences as a woman, exchanging life stories with Marissa and Jessa whom, she said, are real-life friends.

"The show will reveal what we really are," said Marissa. "I used to be a bold star," she joked, "but I am a singer-comedian in this show."

Marissa also said "The Soul Sisters Act" would reveal her close friendship with Ara and Jessa. There will be production numbers for the three of them, she said, and solo acts for each. In a bold move, the show will not be following a script, according to Marissa.

"We'll converse with the audience about what women really want and what we really talk about," she said.

And what do women *really* talk about?

"Makeup, shoes, exes," said Jessa, whose husband, Dingdong Avanzado directs the show. "It's a femme show, though I'm not a feminist."

Neither is she, Marissa said. "I'm more spiritual, [which] will also come out in this show. We will be portraying ourselves here and showing how close we are despite our differences. We're women, we have heart, we have soul, we have *atay* and *balun-balunan*. We're all the same no matter how much we weigh or how [we look]."

(The Soul Sisters" Act" goes on stage on May 18 and 31 at the Metro Comedy Bar, and May 20 at Café Lupe.)

Desperate Housewives flip out…

From page A2-4

In the fold-out May cover, which hits newsstands tomorrow, the center position belongs to Nicollette Sheridan, who's flanked by Hatcher and Cross with Longoria and Felicity Huffman posed beneath them on a chaise—although Cross and Huffman can't be seen when the cover is folded.

Also in the article, the women discuss the media blitz surrounding the show and its stars. Huffman believes a "Desperate" backlash is imminent while Cross just ignores it all.

"Honestly, I don't read it," Cross told Vanity Fair of the media coverage. "And I don't even watch the show right now. It's too much. It's just too much…" *AP*

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS GP
2 (DOLBY) CLOSER R13
3 (DOLBY) THE PACIFIER GP
4 (DOLBY) SAHARA PG13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) HIDE AND SEEK PG13

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 SAHARA (SIMUL US)
2 PACIFIER
3 CLOSER
4 HIDE AND SEEK

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 SAHARA (SIMUL US)
2 CLOSER
3 PACIFIER

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 ALONE IN THE DARK
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) SAHARA
5 PACIFIER

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 BOOGEYMAN
2 GAMITAN
3 RENOVATION
4 RENOVATION
5 (DOLBY) SAHARA
6 CLOSER

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) LEGENDARY STREET FIGHTER
2 RENTAL RESERVATION

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
2 (SDDS) PACIFIER
3 (DTS) MISS CONGENIALITY 2
4 (GOLD DTS) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
5 (GOLD DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
6 (GOLD SDDS) THE PACIFIER
7 (GOLD DOLBY) HIDE AND SEEK
8 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
9 CLOSER
10 BE COOL

Araneta Center CINEMA GUIDE
For Inquiries Pls. Call TICKETNET 911-5555
GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10
Level 4, Gateway Mall
The First and Only Real Cineplex in the Philippines!
ALL THEATERS IN DOLBY EX ULTRA SOUND, FULL STADIUM SEATING AND EXCLUSIVE VISTA COMPUTER TICKET SYSTEM GUARANTEED SEATS, NO STANDING ROOM
HIDE AND SEEK
MISS CONGENIALITY 2
THE PACIFIER
BOOGEYMAN
SAHARA
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
CLOSER
BE COOL
HITCH
ALI MALL CINEMAS
1 THE PACIFIER
2 MISS CONGENIALITY 2
3 SAHARA
4 HIDE AND SEEK
5 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 HUNTED OFFICE
2 SEX & ZEN-2
3 BIGLANG LIKO
4 RESERVED

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 SAHARA (SIMUL US)

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD
2 CURSED
3 (DTS EX) CONFIDENE
4 HOSTAGE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 CONFIDENCE
2 HOSTAGE
3 (DOLBY) CURSED
4 (DTS) SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 ROBOTS
2 HITCH
3 (DOLBY) MILLION DOLLAR BABYS
4 (DTS) FIVE CHILDREN

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 ROBOTS
2 HITCH

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) PACIFIER
CLOSER
2 (DOLBY) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
3 (DOLBY) SAHARA
4 (DOLBY) HIDE AND SEEK

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium
Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
2 (DTS) BE COOL
3 (DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
4 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD
2 (DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
3 (DTS) VISIBLE SECRET
4 BE COOL

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 ROBOTS
2 HITCH
3 (DOLBY) MILLION DOLLAR BABY

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 BAHAY NI LOLA
2 CURSED
3 (DOLBY) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4 (DTS) HITCH

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 MISS CONGENIALITY
2 ROBOTS
3 (DOLBY) SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) WAR EAGLES
2 HUWAD NA HAYOP
3 TETENG BALIW
4 (DTS) CRACKER JACK

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
2 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
3 (DTS) BE COOL
4 KAPIT BAHAY
5 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 BAHAY NI LOLA
2 WHOLE TEN YARD
3 (DTS) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4 (DOLBY) CURSED

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 MISS CONGENIALITY
2 CURSED
3 CONFIDENCE
4 SALAT SA LIGAYA

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 CHAIN OF COMMAND
2 ANG GUSTO KO SA LALAKE

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

His daughter's Mr. Right just turned out to be... Mr. White.
berniemac ashtonkutcher
guesswho

sneakpreview
at
robinsonsmovieworld
Galleria•Ermita•Metro East•
Novaliches•Imus
APRIL 11 & 12
mtrcb rating:PG13
showing on APRIL 13
at Robinsons Movieworld Cinemas
For SCREENING SCHEDULES, call our CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555 or visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

Cineplex Grand Lobby

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway CinePlex*10
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
Custom Fabric Seats & Wall-To-Wall Carpeting
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
ONLY P99 ADMISSION • P120 RESERVED SEATS
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555

HIDE AND SEEK
12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
MISS CONGENIALITY 2
1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30
THE PACIFIER
12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
BOOGEYMAN
2:15 / 4:30 / 6:45 / 9:00
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
1:10 / 3:10 / 5:10 / 7:10 / 9:10
CLOSER
12:25 / 2:35 / 4:45 / 6:55 / 9:05
BE COOL
1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20
SAHARA
1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30

ALI MALL CINEMAS
❶ THE PACIFIER
11:50 / 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:20 / 8:30
❷ MS. CONGENIALITY 2
11:55 / 2:40 / 5:25 / 8:10
❸ SAHARA
12:20 / 3:05 / 5:50 / 8:35
❹ HIDE & SEEK
11:40 / 1:50 / 4:00 / 6:10 / 8:20
❺ SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
12:10 / 2:10 / 4:10 / 6:10 / 8:10
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE Apr. 13
4:45pm Purefoods vs. Sta Lucia / 7:35pm Ginebra vs. Shell
THE CASCADES: LIVE IN MANILA
April 15 Friday, 8pm
RIVERMAYA & KITCHIE NADAL LIVE!
April 16, Saturday, 8pm
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE Apr. 17
4:15pm Alaska vs. Red Bull / 6:35pm Ginebra vs. Talk N Text

CENTER EVENTS
SALE EVENTS — Van Heusen Dress Shirt Sale ongoing until April 17 and Mod Milano Jewelry Sale ongoing until April 15, Ground Floor of Gateway Mall
EXHIBITS — Pope John Paul II Memorial Exhibit ongoing until April 16 at Level 3 of Gateway Mall
SPECIAL PROMOS — Hush Puppies Get Into the Wave Promo ongoing until April 30 at Level 2 of Gateway Mall.
LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

'Darna' needs to fly higher

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE FIRST telecast last Monday of Channel 7's new "Darna" fantaserye started off well, with an imiginatively visualized sci-fi "battle of the worlds" sequence set in outer space.

The combatants in this fight to the finish were the forces of good led by **Lorna Tolentino**'s character, Ardan, and **Celia Rodriguez**'s minions of absolute evil.

We noted that this long opening sequence was more "cinematic" than even some of the "Darna" films of yore, a sign of how television has improved on its ability to conjure up sci-fi vistas of compelling drama and power.

However, after that impressive opening sequence, the story's iconic pebble of goodness ("Ding, *ang bato*!") ends up in the Philippines, and the visual action all too quickly goes from dazzling sci-fi, to standard melodrama.

This is a huge drop in inventiveness that makes large chunks of the new fantasy series too pat and predictable to generate sustained interest.

We see little Narda almost falling off a footbridge, her family's home being burned down by a nasty landlord, a major *kontrabida* making her appearance in **Sandy Andolong** as a vicious and snooty relative, etc.

As you can see, these are standard melodrama-telenovela touches that feel too earthbound to be in a fantaserye. We trust that the show's writer's powers of imaginative invention will fly higher in subsequent episodes.

A more imaginative touch in the first telecast was the creation of an evil minion in a Filipino version of the Loch Ness Monster, who inhabits a river and rears up now and then to devour the occasional hapless passerby.

On point of dread and danger, Andolong comes off as too low-key to be a truly fearsome villainess.

We trust that she will soon find a way to up the evil ante, to raise the production's conflict level.

Summer showdown

RIVERMAYA and **Kitchie Nadal** will have a musical summer showdown at Araneta Coliseum on April 16, performing the hits that have made them popular. As a special treat, Spongecola will also be dishing out their crowd favorites, along with pop newcomers Juana and their hot "Pansinin Mo" radio single. Tickets at SM Ticketnet outlets and at the coliseum's box office.

"Easy English"

CORBAN Learning Center offers "Easy English" courses every Saturday and Sunday starting April 16 and 17.

The Sunday course will focus on English grammar, pronunciation and conversation, while the Saturday course includes English grammar, pronunciation, Business writing and presentations (from 2 to 5 p.m.). Call 842-6665.

"Quest"

CNN's "Quest" airs at 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Saturdays and 7 p.m. on Sundays. It features the best and brightest people in entertainment, politics, business, culture and society. More than just a talk show, **Richard Quest**'s program takes viewers into his guests' different worlds.

Tribute to Canseco

AS A TRIBUTE to **George Canseco**'s great talent, Viva Records has compiled the best recordings of his songs as interpreted by the country's top singers in the two-disc album, "Paano Kita Mapapasalamatan."

Cuts include **Sharon Cuneta** performing "Dear Heart" and "Ako Ay Pilipino," "Kapantay Ay Langit" with **Rachelle Ann Go**, "Ama" with **Basil Valdez**, "Paano" with **Pops Fernandez**, "Saan Darating ang Umaga" with **Rico J. Puno**, "Sana" with **Kuh Ledesma**, and "Paano Kita Mapapasalamatan" with **Sarah Geronimo**.

'Tsunami: Animal Instinct'

"AN INTUITION, a hunch, a sixth sense." Whatever it was, it seems to have saved an astounding number of animals in the December 2004 tsunami that struck the coasts of nine Asian countries. At 10 p.m. on April 24, Animal Planet telecasts a special program, "Tsunami: Animal Instinct," about this phenomenon.

Beyond the tsunami, the special looks at animal behavior exhibited in other disasters throughout time, and how people and animals have come together to overcome great adversity.

Moonrise Film Festival

THE MOONRISE Film Festival, an environmental film fest, will be launched at 6 p.m. on Earth Day, April 22, at Cinema 4, Gateway Cineplex 10, Araneta Coliseum. The launch features the screening of "Children of the Mountains," a 45-minute documentary about the Sierra Madre Agtas and their relationship with the forest. The Moonrise Film Festival will be held in August.

Environmental play

ARTHUR P. Casanova's environmental play, "*Lumad, Huwag Mong Lisanin ang Kabundukan*," was staged in Surigao del Norte National High School on April 8 by the school's Hingas Surigao Dance-Theater troupe.

Directed by **Basilidas Pilapil Jr.**, the play is about the plight of the Lumads in Mindanao, and their misadventures with lowlanders. Performers include **Godwyn Xyrus Alabazo, Monaliza Zerda, Karen Mae Biasca, George Marion Cabanilla, Mae Grace Tajonera, Mia Amor Borja, Gea Tan, Martini Daloso, Almed P. Tecson, Almira Asilo, Marian Espina** and **Stephanie Ellarina**. The play will be performed in other parts of Mindanao throughout summer.

Daniel Bedingfield

"SECOND First Impression," **Daniel Bedingfield**'s follow-up album to his hit debut compilation, "Gotta Get Thru This," includes hot cuts like "Growing Up," "Complicated," "Wrap My Words Around You," "Show Me the Real You," "All Your Attention" and "All the Little Children."

Ja Rule sings

RAP artist and song writer **Jeffrey Atkins**, better known as Ja Rule, performs on April 23 at Araneta Coliseum.

In his latest album, "R.U.L.E.," Ja Rules is off to a fast start with two hot tracks, "Wonderful" featuring **R. Kelly** and **Ashanti**, and "New York" with **Fat Joe** and **Jadakiss**.

Other cuts include "Caught Up," "Where I'm From," "Last of the Mohicans," "Gun Talk" and "'Bout My Business."

Tickets to Ja Rule's concert are available at all Ticketnet outlets.

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
Voted Best Movie Theater
-Philippine Daily Inquirer's 2004 Yearend Reader Survey
For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 PACIFIER 10:50, 1:15, 3:30 GP | CLOSER 6:00, 8:25, 10:50 R-13
2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS THE MOVIE 11:20, 1:40, 4:00 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 GP
3 SAHARA 11:55, 2:45, 5:35 8:25, 11:05 PG-13
4 HIDE AND SEEK 10:35, 1:05, 4:35 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

CLOSER R13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE GP 1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55,10:05	GUESS WHO PG13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10
HIDE AND SEEK PG13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	THE PACIFIER GP 1:25,3:35,5:45 BE COOL PG13 7:45,10:15	SAHARA PG13 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:20

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA-SHAW	METROPOLIS ALABANG star	starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 726.81.50	Tel. No. 850.42.85	Tel. No. 873.50.04
3 Alone in the Dark 4 Sahara 5 Pacifier	1 Boogeyman 2 Gamitan 3 Renovation 4 Renovation 5 Sahara 6 Closer	1 Legendary Street Fighter 2 Rental Reservation

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 CLOSER 11:10, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10 R13
CINEMA 2 HIDE AND SEEK 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00 P13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM
APRIL 28 2005 "LOVE IN APRIL" - PILITA CORRALES 7 30PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX
① THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (GP) 12 40, 3 00, 5.20, 7 40, 10 00 LMF
② CLOSER (R-13) 12.10, 2.35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50 LMF
③ THE PACIFIER (GP) 12.15, 2:40, 5.05, 7:30 LMF
④ SAHARA (PG-13) 1.30, 4.20, 7:10, 10:00 LMF
PREMIERE THEATRE HIDE AND SEEK (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7 30, 10.00 LMF
WATCH THE *SNEAK PREVIEW* OF "GUESS WHO" AT SHANG CINEPLEX 3 9:35PM
Starring Ashton Kutcher and Bernie Mac MTRCB Rating PG-13
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

Enjoy Double Treats
Get one (1) free URBANSPA Express Massage or a P250 Urban Spa cash coupon for every single purchase of four (4) Shang Cineplex (Cinema 1-4) or Two (2) Premiere Theatre tickets.

Chocolate Delights
Get four (4) FREE Spongebob Squarepants chocolates for every purchase of one (1) Spongebob Movie Ticket and a minimum single receipt purchase of P150 at the Shang Cinebar.
Promo Period: April 6 - 19, 2005
See posters for details
Per DTI NCR Permit No. A3-257, Series of 2005

Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P160
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4736 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE
MOVIEWORLD
CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES
www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9115-16
1 BE COOL • THX 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS 11:00 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00
3 HIDE AND SEEK 10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00
4 CLOSER 10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00
5 SAHARA 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
7 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
8 BOOGEYMAN 1:10 3:25 5:40 7:55 10:00
9 THE PACIFIER 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
10 ASTERIX AND OBELIX 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:40

ERMITA 536-7809 to 1
1 CLOSER 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
2 SAHARA 11:10 1:40 4:15 6:55 9:40
3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS 10:30 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00
4 BOOGEYMAN 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
5 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 10:20 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00
7 HIDE AND SEEK 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199
1 BOOGEYMAN 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 11:20 1:40 6:30 9:00
3 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
4 CLOSER 11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10
5 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 8:50 10:30
6 SAHARA 11:50 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30
7 THE PACIFIER 10:50 1:10 3:30 5:50 8:10 10:30
8 HIDE AND SEEK 12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

NOVALICHES 935-3229/31
1 CLOSER 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00
2 BOOGEYMAN 11:00 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25
3 HIDE AND SEEK 10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25
4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30
5 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
6 SAHARA 11:50 2:40 5:30 8:25
7 RESERVE
8 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378
1 SAHARA
2 HIDE AND SEEK
3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4 CLOSER

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575
1 SON OF THE MASK 2
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS
4 ROOM SERVICE

CAINTA 240-4661
1 THE PACIFIER
2 HIDE AND SEEK
3 SAHARA
4 CLOSER

Boso is the first digital film by **DIGITAL VIVA** and is directed by the award-winning director, **JON RED**

"BOSO, shot on a digital video, is a sexy dark comedy about Jake, caretaker of a boarding house by day and a peeping-Tom by night. In a place filled with twisted characters and absurd lives, he oversees each tenat's secrets, daily [illegible] world. Jake continues "playing God" until he meets and falls for Cecilia, a woman who makes him realize the essence of beauty - unseen by the eyes. Later, a tragic incident leads to an unexpected twist and dramatic confrontation.

Starring:
KATYA SANTOS, ALLEN DIZON, GWEN GARCI, JEFFREY QUIZON

watch it exclusively at
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA and ERMITA
april 13-19
Rated R-18 by MTRCB

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907
1 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
2 SAHARA
3 BE COOL
4 ROBOTS
5 HOSTAGE

LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870
1 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2 CONFIDENCE
3 NANG NAK
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 CURSED

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332
1 CLOSER
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 THE PACIFIER
4 5 CHILDREN AND IT
5 MS. CONGENIALITY 2

ANGELES (045) 892-2348
1 CURSED
2 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
3 CONFIDENCE
4 HOSTAGE

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188
1 HIDE AND SEEK
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 GUESS WHO Sneak Preview
4 THE PACIFIER
5 CLOSER
6 SAHARA

STARMILLS [illegible]
1 HAROLD AND KUMAR
2 NANG NAK
3 HOSTAGE
4 ALONE IN THE DARK
5 CURSED
6 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459
1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2 HOSTAGE
3 HITCH
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 NANG NAK
6 SON OF THE MASK 2

ILOILO (033) 336-2676
1 HOSTAGE
2 THE FINAL CUT
3 CURSED
4 HITCH
5 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
6 MILLION DOLLAR BABY

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

Ara Mina mends her broken heart

... with work and more work, including a concert with gal pals Marissa Sanchez and Jessa Zaragoza

By Nini Valera

HOW DID Ara Mina mend her broken heart?

"With work, and more work," said the sexy actress during an exclusive interview with INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday.

A different Ara has emerged from the pain of her failed relationship with boyfriend Jomari Yllana. She's now a more confident woman, coming to terms with life and the blows that it sometimes deals.

"I'm happy to be single—again," she said in Filipino. "It's nice to have time for myself and not think of another person. I lead a quiet life, unlike before ... *ang gulo!*"

"I was with Jom for a long time," she said. "So now I'm giving myself time. I don't want to be involved right away with another man. That time will come, but I'm taking it slow."

Jomari was married to Aiko Melendez when he started seeing Ara, who was dragged into the mess attendant to the couple's separation in 2003. Despite what she now sees as inconsistencies on his part, Ara stuck it out with Jomari until he dumped her unceremoniously early this year. It's an experience that Ara would rather forget, like a bad dream.

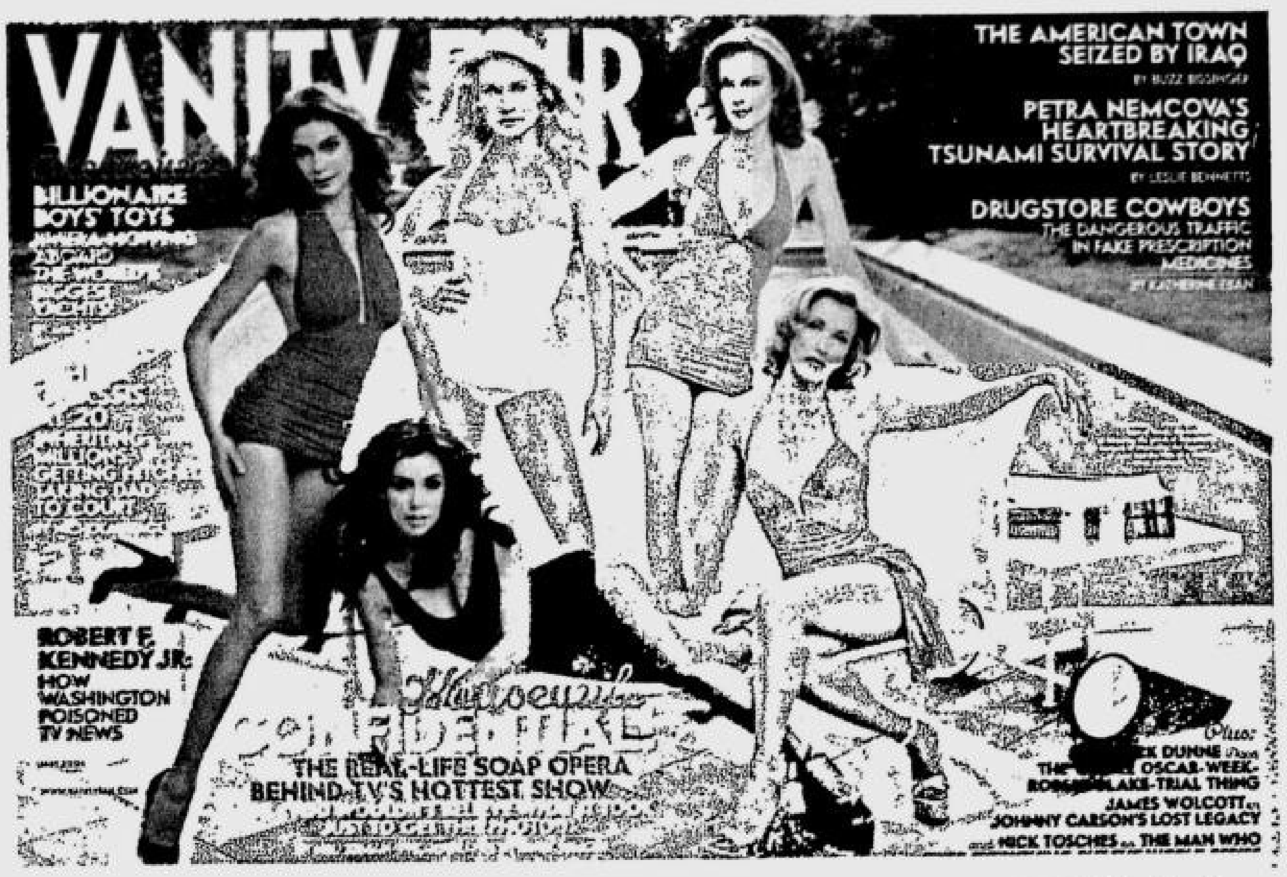
"I don't care what he does with his life now," she said, referring to Jomari's current dalliance with a beauty queen.

Last seen in the fantaserye "Mulawin" on GMA 7, where she played Vultra, queen of the Mulawin, and mother to Angel Locsin, Ara has opted to take a break from the grind of a daily television show. But she's going to revive her stalled singing career with "The Soul Sisters Act," a show with gal pals Marissa Sanchez and Jessa Zaragoza.

"Now I can give my music time," said Ara. "This summer, I'll concentrate on singing. I miss singing. Not many people know I can sing."

ARA/ A2-2

"I DON'T care what he does with his life now," she says of Jomari Yllana.


VANITY FAIR
BILLIONAIRE BOYS' TOYS
THE AMERICAN TOWN SEIZED BY IRAQ
PETRA NEMCOVA'S HEARTBREAKING TSUNAMI SURVIVAL STORY
DRUGSTORE COWBOYS
THE DANGEROUS TRAFFIC IN FAKE PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES
ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR.: HOW WASHINGTON POISONED TV NEWS
THE REAL-LIFE SOAP OPERA BEHIND TV'S HOTTEST SHOW
JAMES WOLCOTT ON JOHNNY CARSON'S LOST LEGACY
NICK TOSCHES ON THE MAN WHO

GUESS what it took to get this photo? From left, Teri Hatcher, Eva Longoria, Nicolette Sheridan, Marcia Cross, Felicity Huffman. REUTERS

'Housewives' freak out on photo shoot

NEW YORK—They may appear sultry and ready for summer on the May cover of Vanity Fair, but according to the magazine, the stars of ABC's hit show "Desperate Housewives" were steaming angry.

Vanity Fair's cover proclaims: "You wouldn't believe what it took just to get this photo!" The article acknowledges that the poolside shoot was manned by an ABC representative who was to make sure that certain demands were met—including that Teri Hatcher didn't select her wardrobe first or appear in the center of any group photo.

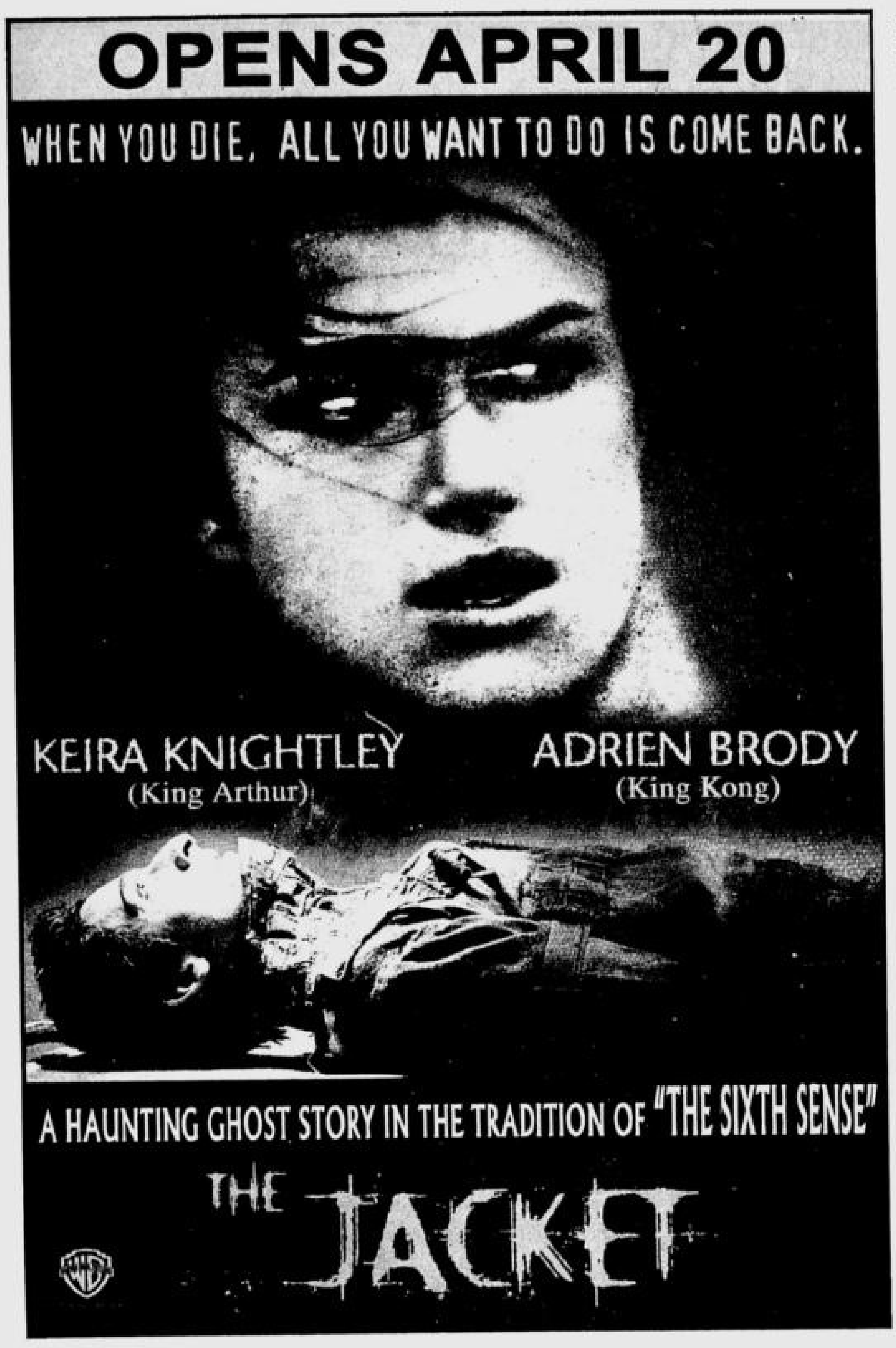
"Whatever you do," the ABC rep, who wasn't identified by name, said when he arrived on the set, "do not let Teri go to wardrobe first."

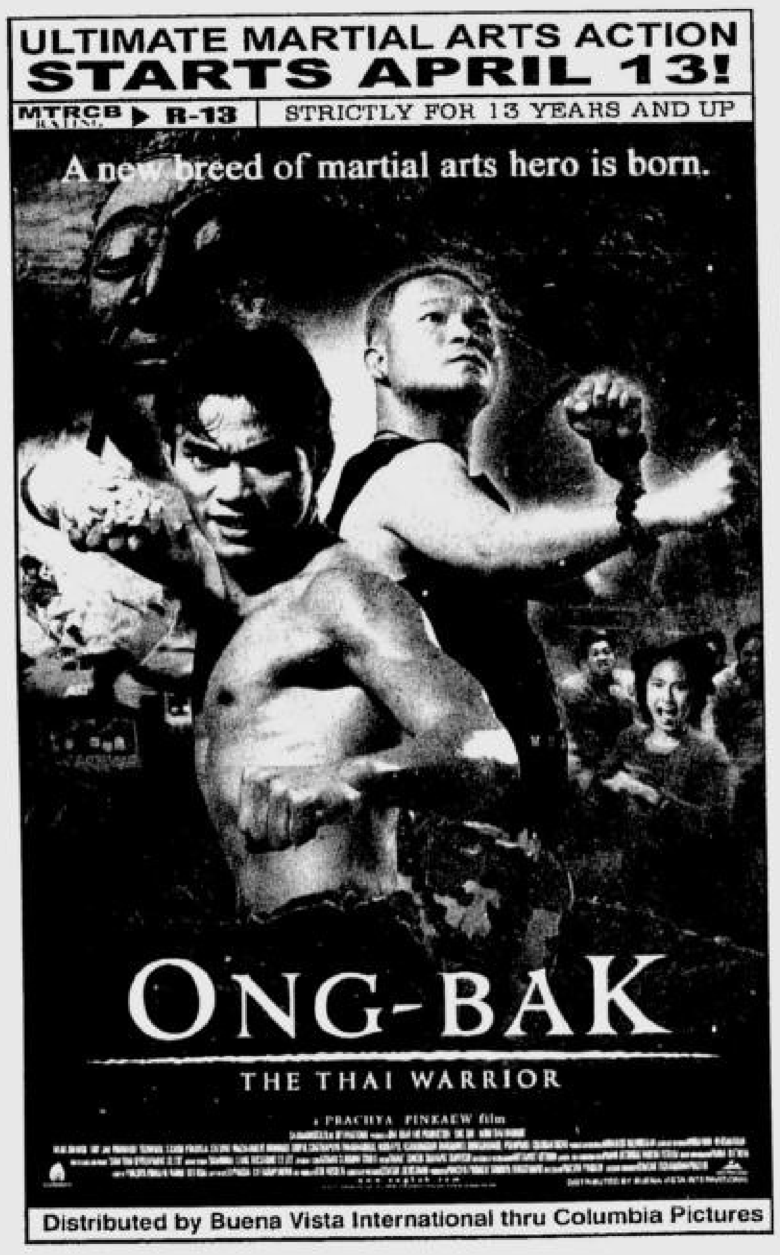
Despite the rep's plea, Hatcher was the first "housewife" to visit wardrobe, and she had consulted with the stylist days in advance. At one point, the rep proclaimed: "This is a problem. I'm getting text messages from Eva (Longoria). Everything is not fine."

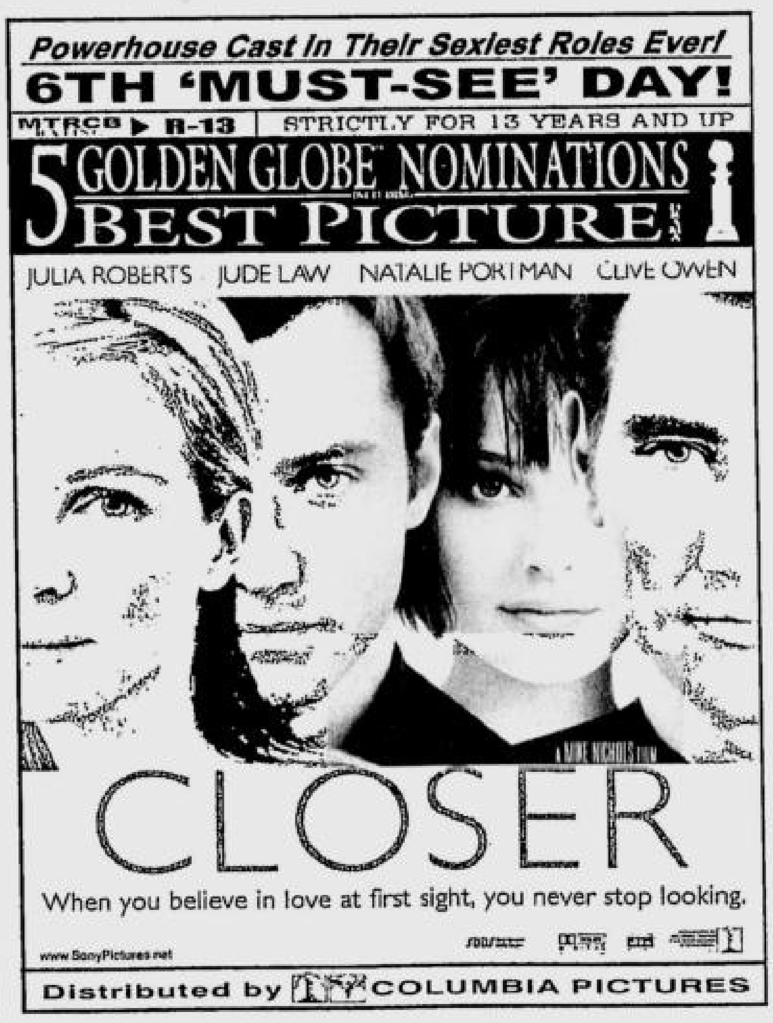
The struggles continued once the photographer started snapping. Redhead Marcia Cross turned red-hot when she saw Hatcher standing next to her in the center of the shot, according to the article. Cross grabbed her bathrobe and stormed off, spewing expletives at the ABC rep.

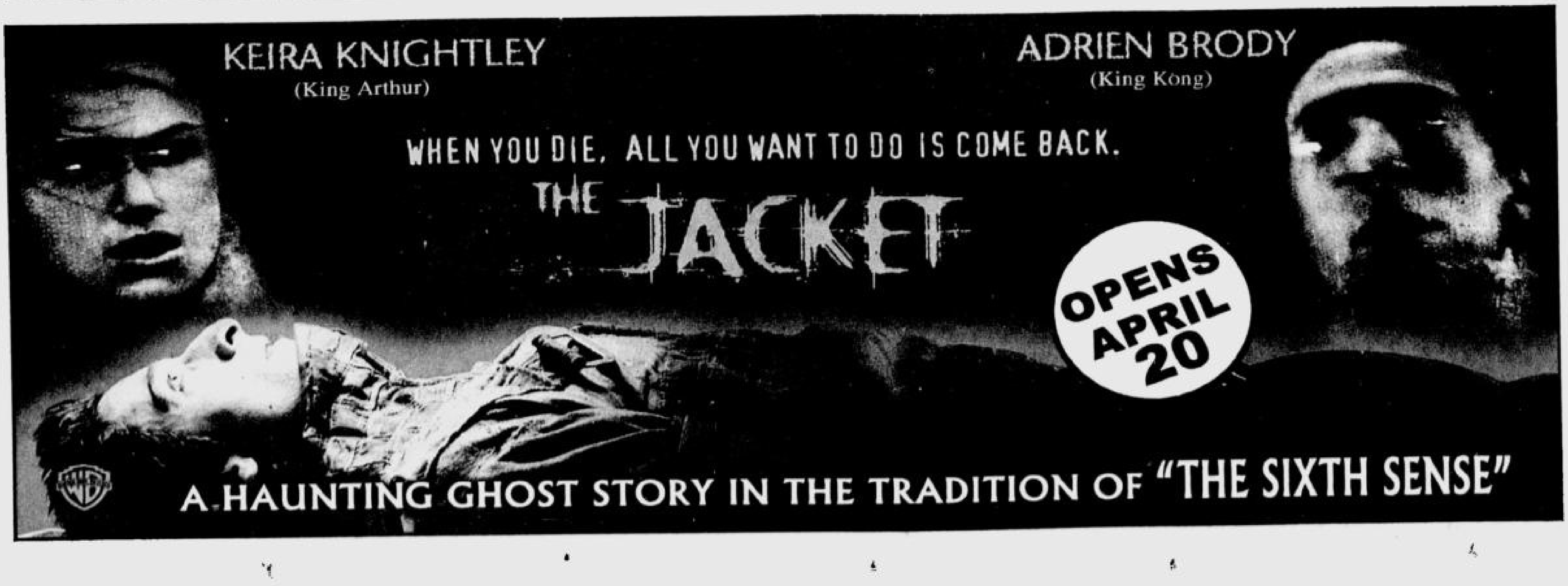
Hatcher later walked to the other end of the set, where "she got into a tearful, heated conversation on her cell phone."

HOUSEWIVES/ A2-2


OPENS APRIL 20
WHEN YOU DIE, ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS COME BACK.
KEIRA KNIGHTLEY (King Arthur)
ADRIEN BRODY (King Kong)
A HAUNTING GHOST STORY IN THE TRADITION OF "THE SIXTH SENSE"
THE JACKET


ULTIMATE MARTIAL ARTS ACTION
STARTS APRIL 13!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
A new breed of martial arts hero is born.
ONG-BAK
THE THAI WARRIOR
A PRACHYA PINKAEW film
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


Powerhouse Cast In Their Sexiest Roles Ever!
6TH 'MUST-SEE' DAY!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
5 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
JULIA ROBERTS JUDE LAW NATALIE PORTMAN CLIVE OWEN
A MIKE NICHOLS FILM
CLOSER
When you believe in love at first sight, you never stop looking.
www.SonyPictures.net
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES


KEIRA KNIGHTLEY (King Arthur)
ADRIEN BRODY (King Kong)
WHEN YOU DIE, ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS COME BACK.
THE JACKET
OPENS APRIL 20
A HAUNTING GHOST STORY IN THE TRADITION OF "THE SIXTH SENSE"

Windows Small Business Server 2003
A complete, affordable network solution for small businesses
- Keep your business running and your data secure
- Maximize your employee productivity
- Connect with customers

Call ICS for more info!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. (632)727-3801 Web: www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY,
APRIL 11, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
BUSINESS
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

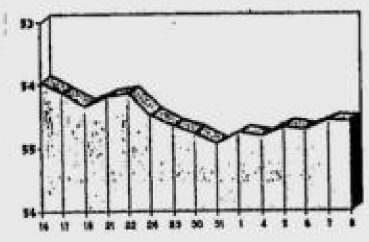
Projecting clear images for 50 years
EIKI
MADE IN JAPAN MULTIMEDIA PROJECTORS
THE BRAIN COMPUTER CORPORATION
AV Design • System Integration • Sales • Rentals
TELS. 722-8843 / 722-8845 / 727-9803 / 721-2466 / 721-2451
email : brain@mozcom.com

Consunji firm eyes Maynilad buyout

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



P54.595 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Aptil 8, 2005

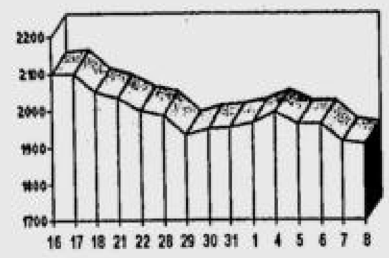
Y108.65 = $1
As of 5 p.m., April 8, 2005

GOLD: $425.00-425.50
per ounce Hong Kong,April 8, 2005

STOCK MARKET

Lethargic trading seen

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



IT SEEMS another lethargic week is in store for the stock market this week, although some analysts expect spurts of activity from first-quarter income results as these start to trickle in.

"There may be some position taking in the next few weeks ahead of the release of first-quarter net income results. Metrobank (already) reported that first-quarter net income was up 53 percent at P1.02 billion," BPI Trade said in its weekly market update.

It said, however, that investors would maintain their cautious stance "until there are more favorable developments on the VAT bill and oil prices."

"The market may see some follow-through reactions from news of higher interest rates from the central bank," 2TradeAsia.com, said in its weekly outlook.

Last week, the benchmark composite index sank 3.03 percent or 59.6 points to 1,906.69.

BPI noted that the market opened higher due to bargain-hunting, but this was not sustained as investors took profits on fears of higher interest rates due to an uptick in inflation.

The March inflation figure was pegged at 8.5 percent, prompting the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to raise overnight interest rates by 25 basis points.

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

By Christine A. Gaylican and Elizabeth L. Sanchez

CONSTRUCTION giant DMCI Holdings Inc. has firmed up its plan to acquire west concessionaire Maynilad Water Services Inc. (Maynilad) from the Lopez family, high-ranking officials of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), Maynilad and DMCI confirmed to the INQUIRER.

DMCI submitted a letter of intent to Benpres Holdings Corp. last April 1 on its bid to acquire the Lopez firm's 59-percent-owned subsidiary Maynilad.

DMCI said it wanted to acquire "all shares of the water distributor if possible," a company official told the INQUIRER.

Other sources said DMCI was willing to invest an amount in Maynilad equivalent to "the amount required under its rehabilitation plan to pay off between $50 and $60 million worth of liabilities" to creditor banks.

In another letter submitted to the MWSS last week, DMCI informed regulators of its intent to acquire a stake in the beleaguered water firm.

"DMCI could be the white knight that Maynilad has been waiting for, but we are now in the final stage of the corporate rehabilitation program still pending for approval with the Quezon City Regional Trial Court," a source from Maynilad added. "It may take some time before we could accommodate DMCI's offer but it will be considered well."

DMCI had also made known its intent to conduct a due-diligence audit on Maynilad's balance sheets and financial reports. As of January, Maynilad's liabilities were estimated at P18 billion and its assets placed at no less than P2 billion.

Nevertheless, monthly collections from customers and the new tariff adjustment had made cash flow steady and operations viable.

DMCI is one of the firms that recently showed interest in the west concessionaire, which supplies water to some 11 million customers in Metro Manila and adjacent municipalities and cities.

The Consunji-led, publicly listed company had said it was looking at new investments this year, powered by a recent cash pile of P2 billion generated from the sale of shares in coal mining subsidiary Semirara Mining Corp.

DMCI said it was studying investments in any sector—including utilities—that may add revenue aside from its construction business.

Aside from DMCI, Metro Pacific Corp. of Hong Kong conglomerate First Pacific Co. also expressed interest in Maynilad.

Creditors and investors started taking a second look at the troubled water distributor after newly installed Maynilad president Fiorello Estuar appraised them on how the company was trying to make its operations viable in spite its limited internally generated funds.

According to Estuar's recent presentation, Maynilad would require an initial P1.16 billion this year for capital spending, which the company would tap from the water rate adjustment imposed last January.

"To raise the water volumes by 749 million liters a day this year, the company's non-revenue water will be our focus," Estuar

CONSUNJI/ B4

Investors getting restless about VAT delay

By Michelle V. Remo

INVESTMENT bank Citigroup, which accounts for a substantial amount of portfolio investments in the Philippines, has hinted that investors were starting to become restless about delays in the passage of the VAT reform bill.

The bank has warned that non-passage of the bill, or further delays in its implementation, could result in the pullout of investments of its clients.

This was reported by Finance Assistant Secretary Gil Beltran who met last Thursday with representatives of Citigroup and its partners from various investment management firms.

Beltran said Citigroup and its partners—among them US-based Morgan Stanley, Paris-Based Fortis Investments, and Toronto-based AGF Group of Funds—were concerned about the certainty of having the VAT reform bill passed, believing it was a crucial step toward solving the Philippines' fiscal dilemma.

The VAT reform bill being pushed by the Arroyo administration includes the increase in its rate from 10 to 12 percent, and the lifting of VAT exemptions of several products like petroleum, and services such as those rendered by lawyers and doctors.

"They asked me how confident are we that the VAT bill will be passed," Beltran said. The finance official said he told the foreign fund managers that the DOF was looking at having it implemented in July, at the earliest, and October, the latest.

Beltran said it was necessary that the government should convince foreign investment managers, particularly Citigroup, that the VAT reform plan would be implemented if the Philippines wanted to attract investors. Citigroup is one of the top three sources of portfolio investments in the Philippines, he said.

According to documents from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, net portfolio investments in the Philippines were already significantly higher in the first two months of the year at $797.3 million. The figure surpassed the $486.8 million recorded for the whole of 2004.

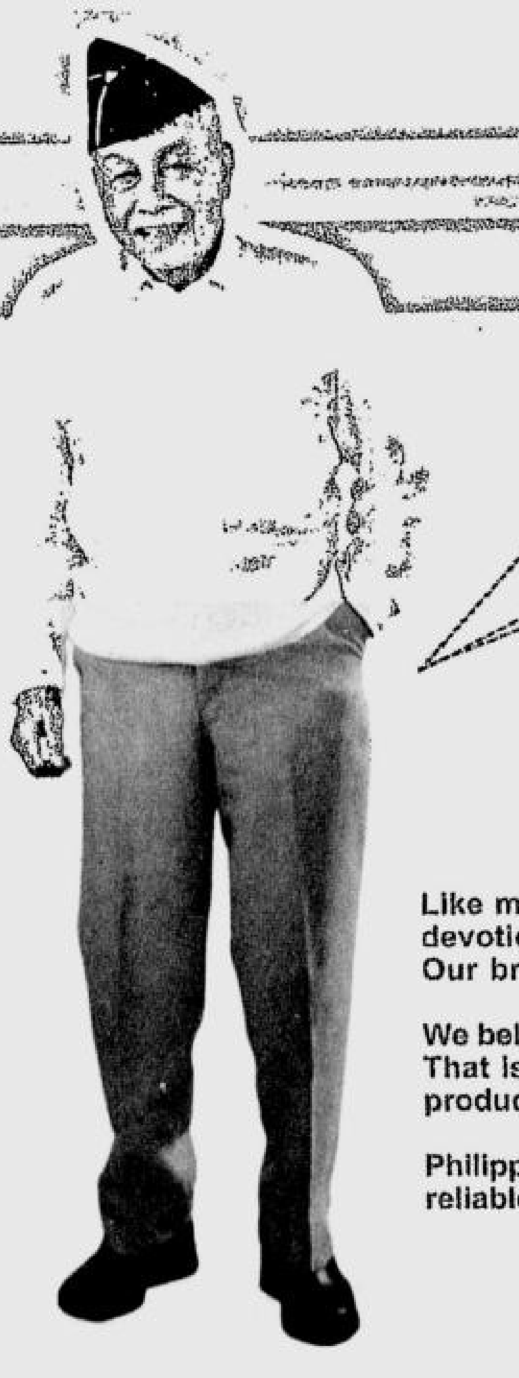
The relatively high portfolio investments reflected the favorable response of foreign investors to a slew of positive developments in the Philippines, such as the 6.1-percent gross domestic product growth in 2004, and the initial moves to address the country's fiscal problem like the passage of the sin taxes bill in December.

However, the BSP said the sustainability of having a healthy level of portfolio investments still hinged on the government's ability to pursue the fiscal reforms

INVESTORS/ B6

COL. GUSTAVO INGLES
82 years old
Founding Member, ROTC Hunters
WWII Veteran
HERO

"Hunters" Officers and
Officers of the 11th Airborn Division
May 26, 1945



FREEDOM OF CHOICE
A VETERAN'S LEGACY

Like many fearless soldiers, his life is an inspiring fusion of patriotism, duty, devotion and, above all, self-sacrifice for the good of free people everywhere. Our brave war heroes granted us the understanding of what it is to be free.

We believe you have the freedom to make choices when it comes to your money. That is why Philippine Veterans Bank offers competitive yet flexible financial products that take care of your daily banking needs.

Philippine Veterans Bank is committed to serve all Filipinos who choose to enjoy reliable and personalized banking service.

At Philippine Veterans Bank, our personal touch makes us your best choice.

PHILIPPINE VETERANS BANK
A Private Commercial Bank
my choice
PVB Building, 101 V.A. Rufino
corner Dela Rosa Streets, Legaspi Village
Makati City, Philippines
Trunklines: 894-3919 • 751-5000
www.veteransbank.com.ph
Member: PDIC. Deposits insured up to P250,000.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NTC test shows congestion between Smart, Digitel

By Abigail L. Ho

SMART Communications Inc. may be blocking calls coming from the networks of Gokongwei-owned Sun Cellular and Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc.

According to a voice traffic monitoring report from the National Telecommunications Commission, congestion does exist between Smart's mobile phone network and those of Digitel and Sun Cellular.

The voice traffic monitoring was conducted on the Gokongwei firms' end, with technical staff from the NTC's common carriers authorization department and Digitel doing the required tests.

AIG Money Multiplier Life Protection and Wealth Accumulation. We deliver both. PHILAM LIFE

Investment Funds of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Valuation Date 3/31/2005	Valuation Date 4/07/2005
Philamlife Fixed Income Fund	1.0480	1.0457
Philamlife Equity Fund	1.1141	1.0940

These investment funds are specific for variable life insurance contracts and are not considered mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission.

On the landline side, the test was done on March 31 from 10:30 p.m. to 12 a.m. the next day. For Sun Cellular, the monitoring activities were conducted on April 1 from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Results of the Digitel-to-Smart test indicated that out of 185 switches present, only 17 were occupied at around 11:30 p.m. This means that there were 168 idle switches.

Despite this, only 13 calls out of a total 44 came through successfully, the report stated.

"Based on the foregoing results, it appears that there is call congestion in the interconnection link between Digitel and Smart. Considering the average number of available devices out of the total of 185 available devices, call congestion should not have existed," it said.

For Sun-to-Smart calls, the results were the same.

At 1 a.m., out of 48 call attempts, only 10 calls were successfully connected.

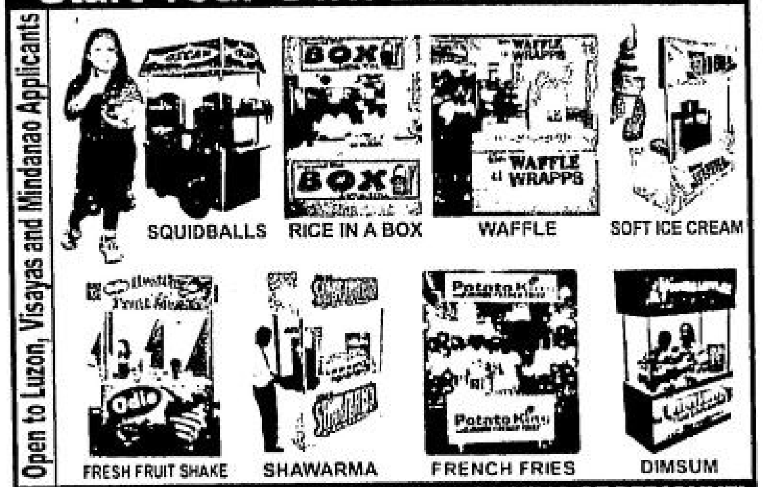
Despite proving that congestion did exist between Smart's network and those of Digitel and Sun Cellular, the NTC report said this did not prove that Smart was actually blocking calls coming from the Gokongwei firms' networks.

"Congestion may either be due to several factors such as call blocking and restriction. However, it is not conclusive to state that the calls are actually being constricted. This requires that tests must also be conducted on the other end of the interconnection link," the NTC report said.

Smart legal and carrier business group head Rogelio Quevedo said in an earlier statement that Sun Cellular was just using those allegations of call blocking as a "scapegoat," considering that Sun Cellular's call connection rate was way below the NTC-mandated 93 percent.

NEGOSYONG foodcart FRANCHISE 10T.
Start Your Own Business!

Open to Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao Applicants



● HIGH PROFIT ● EASY TO OPERATE ● TRAINING OF PERSONNEL
● STRONG MARKETING SUPPORT ● FAST RETURN OF INVESTMENT

Visit us
FRAN.CON, Inc.
FRANCHISE AND MARKETING CONSULTANCY
SINCE 1996

21/F Unit 2109 Antel Global Corp. Ctr., J. Vargas Ave.
cor. Meralco Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
637-2309 • 637-2316 • 637-2393

AIM ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurial Finance for SMEs

Basic Entrepreneurial Finance: Establishing the Enterprise
April 25 - 28, 2005

Program Overview
For owners, entrepreneurs, managers, senior finance officers of small, medium enterprises (SMEs). This course aims to provide participants the basic tools for analyzing the enterprise's financial performance, managing enterprise funds and financial planning and budgeting.

Course Coverage: Learning the basic tools for:

Analyzing Enterprise Financial Performance
- Understanding and Constructing Financial Statements
- Financial Analysis
- Funds Flow Analysis

Managing Enterprise Funds
- Working Capital Management
- Financial Forecasting
- Estimating Financial Requirements

Managing Cost & Profit
- Cost-Volume Analysis
- Product Line Analysis
- Break-even Analysis

Financial Planning and Budgeting
- Master Budgeting
- Operating Budget

Advanced Entrepreneurial Finance: Growing the Enterprise
May 16 - 19, 2005

Program Overview
For owners, entrepreneurs, managers, senior finance officers of small, medium enterprises (SMEs), This course aims to enable participants to organize and align the finance functions and strategies towards greater growth and assured sustainability of the enterprise.

Course Coverage: Learning the intricacies and relationship of:

Financial and Business Direction
- Finance Functions
- Linking Policies and Strategies
- Assessing Financial Performance
- Pursuing Growth and Sustainability

Investment and Growth
- Translating Strategies to Investments
- Analyzing Investment Options
- Assessing Business Risk

Finance and Stability
- Matching Financing to Investments
- Structuring Capital Requirements
- Assessing Financial Risk

Control and Performance Steering
- Analyzing Information Needs
- Setting up Management Control System

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

For inquiries and reservation call:
Ms. Luvy Villanueva / Ms. Lorna Balina / Amy Reyes
Tel +632 892-4011 to 25
ext. 187, 356, 252, 220

Telefax +632 813-3302
Email ace@mail.aim.edu.ph
lvillanueva@mail.aim.edu.ph

EQUIS ACCREDITED

Eugenio Lopez Foundation Bldg., Joseph R. McMicking Campus
123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1260 Philippines

www.aim.edu.ph

www.whirlpool.com.ph

Now cooling...
in 360 degrees

The new Whirlpool Rhapsody No Frost refrigerator.
A sleek blend of beauty and function. Makes cooling easy with its 360 degree surround cool system that provides even cooling in all the refrigerator compartments, even food stored at the door shelves. It also has a built-in deodorizer that prevents food odors from mixing with each other, plus a humidity controlled crisper that maintains food freshness.

The new Rhapsody refrigerator with 360 degree surround cool, all around cooling... all around your refrigerator.

Truly a work of art like no other.

WBM 10Q Stainless Finish
10 cu.ft., No Frost

Also available:
WBM 08Q - 8 cu.ft., No Frost
WBM 11Q - 11 cu.ft., No Frost
**available in Almond and Stainless Finish colors*

Whirlpool QUALITY EXPRESS SERVICE
7-DAY SERVICE
HOTLINE 7327370
TEXT SERVICE 0918-WE SERVE (937-3783)
QUICK RESPONSE MOBILE SERVICE

Distributed by: Excellence Appliance Technologies, Inc.

Whirlpool HOME APPLIANCES

YOU and Whirlpool. The world's best homemakers.

Yulo-lation

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

THE HEIRS of the late Chief Justice Jose Yulo lost in their bid to revoke a 1977 donation of a 4.1-hectare property in Canlubang to the San Pablo diocese, as well as their decades-long, violence-ridden fight to exclude nearly 255 hectares of their former sugar estate from agrarian reform.

The Yulos, through ex-Calamba Mayor Jesus Miguel Yulo, sued beginning 1990 to win back the donated property, claiming that not only had the diocese failed to establish a home for the aged as a condition for the donation, but that the local church had also thrice leased portions of the property to other parties without the prior written consent of C-J Yulo and Sons, the donor.

In rebuffing the Yulos, the SC Third Division, through ponente Cancio Garcia, agreed with an earlier Court of Appeals decision that the diocese committed only "casual breaches," not enough grounds to revoke the donation.

(For those who believe in conspiracy theories, the Third Divison is chaired by Artemio Panganiban, the high court's resident Catholic theologian.)

Besides, the SC noted, the diocese had leased portions of the property precisely to raise funds for the planned home for the aged.

"This court cannot consider the requirement of a prior written consent by the donor ... as an absolute ground for the revocation of the donation because such a condition, if not correlated with the purpose of the donation, would constitute undue restriction of the donee's right of ownership over the donated property," the Supreme Court said.

According to court documents, the San Pablo diocese had also wanted to exchange the donated property, part of what used to be the Canlubang Sugar Estate, to a more rural location since Canlubang has now become a factory site.

The setback is the second such received by the landed family from the Supreme Court last month, when the Special First Division chaired by no less than Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. upheld the Aquino-era acquisition of the nearly 255 hectares in barangay Casile, Cabuyao, from the Yulos under the comprehensive agrarian reform program.

In an attempt to clear the disputed property of what it claimed were "squat-

COCKTALES/ B6

NEGOSYONG FOOD CART
(Earn P20,000 - P30,000 / Booth)
BARYABALLS STATION
P 65" ONLY (PROMO)
DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND !!!
DRINK STATION CART
FRIED CHICKEN CART
BURGERS & SANDWICH CART
WE PROVIDE SITES, MANPOWER & INITIAL STOCKS FREE
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
Tels: 995-7899 • 995-7183 (Ms. ANNE)
Reserve Now and Get Big Discount!!

SAY GOODBYE TO DARK SCAR FOREVER!
Finally.... A dark scar lightening that works IN JUST 7 DAYS
-also available-
-underarms whitening
-pimples / acne removes
-face whitening
-body whitening
CALL ME NOW! -JULIA
T(02)4118319
T(02)4143082
TO ORDER BY MAIL, TEXT TO
09275402258

YOU ARE INVITED! to attend our OPEN HOUSE on April 16, 2005 Saturday at 8 - 6 pm
COOL Properties! HOT Deals!
Your AFFORDABLE Patriotic Investment in your home country, the PHILIPPINES! ENJOY the most DELIGHTFUL locations with the most BREATHTAKING views!
TAGAYTAY Vacation Homes
MAURA MODEL Wood-Inspired 1-Storey Ranch-Type Retirement Homes
ALEXENE MODEL II Wood-Inspired 2-Storey Vacation Homes
DITAS MODEL 1-Storey w/ Loft Private Log Homes
BAGUIO Vacation Homes
ALEXENE MODEL Wood-Inspired 2-Storey Vacation Homes
For inquiries, Pls. Call: LEXBER Realty Mgt. & Mktg. 372-3206; 374-2584; 410-8367 to 69; 371-9702 to 04
website: www.lexber.com email: vacation@lexber.com
"WE WELCOME BROKERS & AGENTS"

AS LOW AS P300 FREE ESTIMATE!
FAX REPAIR
Panasonic | NEC | SAMSUNG
SANYO | [illegible] | [illegible]
MURATA | SHARP | OKI
NISSEI | Canon | OTHERS
ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO, AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS.
KCS KINGS
G/F Auro-Vir Plaza, 1695 Evangelista St., Bangkal, MAKATI CITY 894-2309 843-6630 843-6662
Rm. C RGH Building #3 Timog Avenue, QUEZON CITY 374-7963 411-6380
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 15% DISCOUNT

Summer Outing Package
Riverview Resort & Conference Center
Day Swimming (8am-5pm) Entrance/Swimming/Cottage Php 80.00
Night Swimming (6pm-6am) Entrance/Swimming/Cottage Php 95.00
• Entrance & Swimming Fee
• Access to a near Olympic size Pool with 20 ft. high twister slide • Access to kiddie pool with slide
• Use of Open Native Huts • Use of Common Shower & Bath
• Free use of Barbeque Grill • 15% Discount on Bowling Games
• Ample Parking Space
Cell. No.: 0918-9142837 • 0917-5449913 Manila: (02) 925-8858 / 928-4014
Calamba: (049) 545-1856 / 545-2112 Website: www.riverview.com.ph

TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR
MINI-BOB TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR
• So small it could fit in a bag
• So light it can be brought anywhere
• Will fit in the aisle of the airplane
• Ideal for travel anywhere around the world
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513
SM MANILA 5th Floor 484-1471
ROBINSONS PIONEER 2nd Floor 687 6628
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg A 635-0436
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 802-1565
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635 5061
CEBU 412-4818

"YOUR OFFICE MACHINE-SOLUTION PROVIDER"
e-mail us at: inquire_dlink@yahoo.com
KITANO
ELECTRONIC CHECKWRITERS • 16 Currencies • 14 Digits • Heavy Duty
TIME RECORDERS • Two color printing • W/ Musical Melody • Auto Column Shifting • Back-up Battery • HEAVY DUTY
LAMINATORS • Adjustable Temperature Control • Laminating Width: 13 inches / A3 Size
MONEY COUNTER • Variable Speed • Preset and Addition Mode • Note Detection
PAPER SHREDDERS • Capacity: 10-12 sheets • Auto Reverse on paper jam • Silent Operation • DURABLE Steel Cutter • Auto off on open bin
WIRE BINDERS • 15-20 sheets Punching Capacity • 40 holes / 14 inches • W/ Punching Selection
8905310 • 8905320 • 8905327
8983431 • 8983432 • 8967764

YOUR VIRTUAL OFFICE IN MAKATI CBD
www.multibusiness.com.ph
Serving ENTERPRENEURS since 1978
E-MAIL: info@multibusiness.com.ph Tel. No. 818-77-52

RUSH!!!
VALENZUELA
WAREHOUSES FOR LEASE
10 T. SANTIAGO ST., CANUMAY, VALENZUELA CITY
• Well-developed gated Industrial compound
• 500 to 5,000 sqms. available
• 3-phase electrical supply
• abundant supply of water
For inquiries, pls. call:
6875660 • 6875250 • 6875253

We'll fix it FAST!
Fax Machines • Computers • Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone Systems • Bundy Clock • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipments
Panasonic EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX SANYO RICOH SAMSUNG brother muratec Canon
CITIWORLD BUSINESS MACHINES SERVICES CORP.
GUARANTEED 60 MINS. SERVICES RESPONSE
Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 1177 Chino Roces Ave., Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

BURGLARIES? LAZY EMPLOYEES? DISHONEST STAFF? INSIDE JOBS? DON'T BE THE NEXT VICTIM!
Protect your company's integrity and assets with HOWARD CCTV SYSTEM
CCTV ACCESSORIES: Camera Housing • Fix or Zoom Lens • Video Switches • Pan/Tilt/Scanner • Digital Processors
OTHER PRODUCTS: ULTRAK High Tech CCTV Equipment • FBII Fire & Burglar Alarm System • HOWARD Proximity Access Control System • Perimeter Protection System • Metal Detection Equipment • Security Lights
SERVICES: System Design & Consultancy • Installation • After Sales Service & Maintenance
yutiam HARDWARE CO. INC. electronic security division
936-938 T. Mapua St., Manila
Tels.: (632) 711-4959 to 61
Fax: (632) 711-4810

SM PRIME HOLDINGS

NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

APRIL 25, 2005, 3:00 P.M.
RIZAL BALLROOM A&B, MAKATI SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
MAKATI CITY

TO ALL STOCKHOLDERS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF SM PRIME HOLDINGS, INC. WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 25, 2005 AT 3:00 P.M. AT THE RIZAL BALLROOM A&B, MAKATI SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, MAKATI CITY. THE PROPOSED AGENDA OF THE MEETING IS SET FORTH BELOW:

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER.
2. CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE AND QUORUM.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS HELD ON APRIL 22, 2004.
4. ANNUAL REPORT.
5. GENERAL RATIFICATION OF THE ACTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE MANAGEMENT FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING UP TO THE DATE OF THIS MEETING.
6. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS FOR 2005-2006.
7. APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS.
8. OTHER MATTERS.
9. ADJOURNMENT.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS FIXED THE END OF TRADING HOURS OF THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE (PSE) ON MARCH 28, 2005 AS THE RECORD DATE FOR THE DETERMINATION OF STOCKHOLDERS ENTITLED TO NOTICE OF AND TO VOTE AT SUCH MEETING AND ANY ADJOURNMENT THEREOF.

MAKATI CITY, MARCH 16, 2005

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(SGD.)EMMANUEL C. PARAS
CORPORATE SECRETARY
SM PRIME HOLDINGS, INC.

20% downpayment for a Jaguar.
How's that for making an impression?
With our flexible financing plans available,
owning a Jaguar has never been easier.
Come and experience classic beauty, pure luxury,
and surprising affordability. Test drive one today.
2005 X-TYPE 2.0L V6 Classic Premium Luxury
New vehicle warranty: 3-years or 100,000 km.
Ownership Begins at P2.525
JAGUAR CARS, INC.
Jaguar MAKATI: ENZO Bldg., 399 Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City Tel: (632) 897-8888 Fax: (632) 895-2677 E-mail: sales@jaguar.com.ph
Jaguar ORTIGAS: 88 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City Tel: (632) 633-3975 to 79 Fax: (632) 633-3975 to 79
SERVICE CENTER: 3904 Quingua St. (near EDSA/BUENDIA), Makati City Tel: (632) 881-7252; (632) 881-7060 Fax: (632) 882-6503
Jaguar Service Helpline +63 9209-JAGUAR (+63 9209-524827)
E-mail: service_ctr@jaguar.com.ph
JAGUAR Born to perform

PATIO PACIFIC Boracay
(Formerly Pink Patio)
Php 5,715.00 per person (twin sharing)
Valid until June 12, 2005
12/F Multinational Bancorp Centre
6805 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel: 845 2222 to 27
Email: sales@patiopacificboracay.com

Consunji firm eyes ...

From page B1

pointed out.

He said the rate adjustment of P30.19 per cubic meter starting Jan. 1 this year would allow the company to place additional water service connections, improve network facilities and have consistent water quality.

"The public must know that efforts to improve our service are being done and the team effort of managers and employees have much to be credited for," he said.

3 things wrong with RP agriculture

No Free Lunch

Cielito F. Habito

WHILE the biggest part (47 percent) of our GDP now comes from the services sector, it remains true that about half of the population derive their livelihood directly or indirectly from the agriculture sector. Thus, it remains one of our foremost economic challenges that the bigger part of the Filipino poor are those living in the rural areas, dependent on this key sector of our economy. At the same time, it is often lamented that our neighbors, particularly the Thais and Indonesians, learned their agricultural technology from us, and yet have now overtaken us in pushing their farm sectors to greater productivity and modernization. Where have we gone wrong? At least three elements come to mind that have been critical in keeping our farm sector backward, and our small farmers poor, all these years.

Weak incentives

Among the more glaring comparative statistics I have seen is how our average farm yields for major crops like rice and corn have gone so far below those of our neighbors. Based on UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) data, our average rice yield of 3.2 tons per hectare falls way short of the 3.9 ton average for developing countries in Asia. It's worse for corn, where our average yield of 1.7 tons per hectare is less than half of the 3.6 ton Asia average. And I haven't even begun to talk of other crops. Why are our farms so unproductive?

There is no simple answer, but economists have long been arguing that our small farmers do not have strong enough incentive to invest in improved productivity, a problem that ultimately traces to not getting their due share of the final value of their products. Investment is not very attractive when the additional benefits to be achieved from it do not make it worthwhile enough. This happens when a small farmer receives unduly low prices for his harvest from the exploitative trader—and the farmer has no choice because either the latter had lent him money beforehand, is the only trader around, and/or he cannot seek better options by bringing his harvest directly to the market because of bad transport infrastructure. It also happens when the farmer, being a share tenant, must give up a portion of the improved harvest to the landlord, whose rent is based on a percentage of the harvest rather than a fixed amount of lease. The government may provide him with better access to improved seeds, fertilizer and other inputs (the usual approach), but for as long as his perceived benefits from availing himself of these do not adequately outweigh their additional cost, he will stick to his old, unproductive ways. You can lead the carabao to the water, but you cannot force him to drink.

This suggests that a critical intervention we have not done enough of is providing farmers with more market options: breaking up marketing cartels, removing their dependence on traders for credit, improving rural transport infrastructure, promoting establishment of more agri-processing firms near the farms, and so on. It seems to me that if we are able to do these effectively, a lot of other things would fall into place.

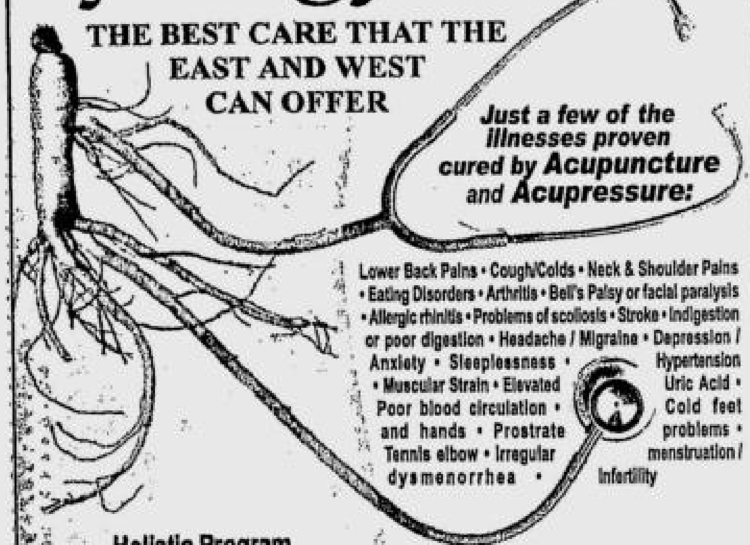
Credit access

As in any other enterprise, credit for working capital and investments in productivity-enhancing inputs is critical to running a farm enterprise. Various solutions have been offered for decades now, but nothing seems to have made appreciable impact. Farmers remain credit-starved. The most pernicious effect of this is the credit-marketing linkage mentioned above, wherein small farmers are often bound to sell their output to traders who had advanced money to them at the start of the cropping season, and are thus deprived of the option of looking for the best price for their output. In all likelihood, the prices offered by the lender-traders at harvest time are so low as to allow them to recover much more than the normal rates of interest on the advanced loans. This credit-marketing link needs to be broken if farmers are to be able to receive a more commensurate share of the true value of their products. The South Korean experience wherein the small farmer cooperatives control both trading and the farm credit system deserves serious study. Farmers can only be empowered to do so if they are well-organized.

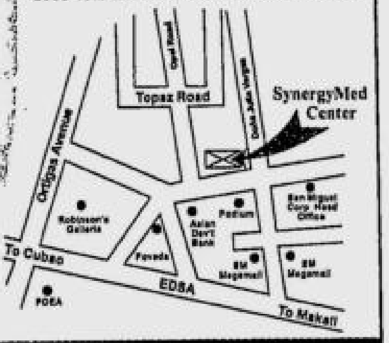
Overcentralization

Still another age-old problem—and to my mind, a critical bottleneck—in our work for the agricultural sector is the way too much of the effort toward agricultural development still comes from Manila, from the Department of Agriculture (DA). True, agricultural extension workers had been devolved to the local governments since the passage of the Local Government Code in 1991. But true devolution means more than that. The bulk of the budgetary resources for agriculture remain at the hands of the DA. I submit that these funds would be more effectively used to benefit small farmers if we shifted more of the responsibility and supervision over these funds to the local governments. As chair of the Gawad Galing Pook award's (the acknowledged "Oscar" of local governance in the country) national selection committee in the last two years, I have been witness to excellent programs by provincial, city and municipal governments to uplift their farm sector. That they could be more effective at this than the DA does not surprise me; the LGUs are much closer to the problems on the ground, and should logically know better how to address them. The challenge, then, is to find innovative mechanisms for even more devolution of efforts for agricultural development beyond what is mandated in the Local Government Code—including passing on more of the budgetary resources of the DA to the LGUs through formal cooperation agreements. The DA's main role should be in setting standards and providing technical support to the LGUs, and less of taking matters into their own hands.

Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu



SynergyMed
THE BEST CARE THAT THE EAST AND WEST CAN OFFER
Just a few of the illnesses proven cured by Acupuncture and Acupressure:
Lower Back Pains • Cough/Colds • Neck & Shoulder Pains • Eating Disorders • Arthritis • Bell's Palsy or facial paralysis • Allergic rhinitis • Problems of scoliosis • Stroke • Indigestion or poor digestion • Headache / Migraine • Depression / Anxiety • Sleeplessness • Hypertension • Muscular Strain • Elevated Uric Acid • Poor blood circulation • Cold feet and hands • Prostrate problems • Tennis elbow • Irregular menstruation / dysmenorrhea • Infertility
Holistic Program (Executive Check-up)
Both our Western and Eastern doctors are equipped with modern tools and top-of-the-line clinical laboratory to provide our patients with an accurate and reliable diagnosis to precisely identify their needed medical attention. Traditional Chinese Medical treatments are made available and incorporated in our unique system for a holistic approach to total health care and maintenance.
Adjudged as the Most Outstanding Acupuncture and Acupressure Center for the following:
2004 Buyer's Choice Award
2004 National Shopper's Choice Annual Award
2004 People's Choice Award
2004 11th Asia Pacific Excellence Award
2004 National Consumer's Quality Award
2003 Year Ender Consumer's Choice Award
FREE Initial consultation
For your convenience, please call our hotline nos. for reservations:
631-2611 • 631-4210 • 631-2742
631-9872 • 634-5689 • 631-4793
23/F Discovery Suites, ADB Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
www.fp-synergymed.com
Other services: Chinese Foot Therapy, Chinese Body Massage, Abdomen Vibration Therapy, Ear Acupuncture Therapy, Pre-employment and Annual physical examinations.



Where you find the best.
JOB
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

Banners
STICKERS

PRINT PROFIT
START A PRINTSHOP BUSINESS NOW!
START-UP CAPITAL ₱30T
Inclusive of Training and Equipments
FOR RESERVATION
CALL: (02) 735-0452 • (02) 488-2393 • (02) 488-8005
0919-4875363 • 0919-8310863

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET
SUMMER HEAT AUCTION APRIL 23, 2005 • 9:00 A.M. UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY
WHY RENT AN OFFICE SPACE WHEN YOU CAN OWN!
for as low as P30,065 per month
10% DOWNPAYMENT
11% INTEREST
10 YEARS TO PAY
BRAND NEW UNITS READY FOR OCCUPANCY
ATLANTA CENTER
Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan
OFFICE UNITS with Parking
77 sqm (1) P 2,728,245.00
83 sqm (1) P 2,837,787.90
101.9 sqm (1) P 2,728,245.00
103 sqm (1) P 3,606,754.00
112.3 sqm (1) P 4,002,011.65
113.4 sqm (1) P 2,728,245.00
137.2 sqm (1) P 4,943,600.00
138.3 sqm (1) P 4,654,178.40
157.2 sqm (1) P 6,075,460.00
157.4 sqm (1) P 3,657,516.00
229.6 sqm (1) P 8,458,060.15
HALF FLOOR
406.3 sqm (5) P 17,301,311.40
409.9 sqm (4) P 17,076,739.70
WHOLE FLOOR
924.50 sqm (9) P 34,118,007.20
924.50 sqm (10) P 35,153,739.00
924.7 sqm (5) P 34,211,194.40
AVAIL OF OUR 6 MONTHS GRACE PERIOD TO IMPROVE THE UNIT.
SHOW MONEY: P 25,000 CASH/MC PER PROPERTY • ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" • PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
AUCTION MANAGER THE PROPERTY FORUM
TELEPHONE NOS.: (02)534-9536 - (02)534-6954 (MON - SUN, 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.)
CALL CENTER: (02)633-1988 - 90 (MON - SUN, 10:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.)
CELLPHONE NO.: (0927)550-6401 24 hours
UCPB
www.ucpb.com

www.wofex.com

Your Ultimate Food Show Experience!
WOFEX 2005
WORLD'S FOOD EXPO
5th International Exposition on Worldwide Food & Beverages
AUGUST 3 to 6 2005
WORLD TRADE CENTER MANILA PHILIPPINES
Co-Located Events
BAKER'S FAIR Exhibition on Confectioneries, Ingredients, Bakery Products, Equipment, Supplies & Technologies
FOODMACH 2005 Supply Solutions Exposition on Packaging, Handling, Manufacturing, Food Service Equipment & Machinery
TASTE EXPO A Series of Culinary Competitions and Demonstrations in Celebration of Culinary Artists
SUMMIT Seminar Series and Workshops on the Latest Products and Trends in the Food & Beverage Industry
WOFEX ... SERVING YOU THE WORLD!
Why WOFEX is the event of choice? Quite Simply ...
WOFEX continues to be the most anticipated food show in the country today;
WOFEX has a tradition of being the most innovative;
WOFEX offers unbeatable trade visitor traffic;
WOFEX showcases wall-to-wall exhibitors, both local and foreign;
WOFEX provides cutting-edge seminars & trade workshops;
WOFEX is home to world-class culinary competitions;
WOFEX continues to enjoy the widest industry support;
WOFEX offers the widest array of business opportunities in food.
MAKING THINGS HAPPEN!
Premier Events Plus Group, Inc.
TEL. (632) 9297993, 9297983, 9208136, 4364209, 4269603 FAX 9297993
COMPANY WEBSITE: WWW.PEPGROUP.COM • EMAIL: INFO@PEPGROUP.COM
SPONSORS & MEDIA PARTNERS:
GOMECO MULTI-MACH kolin JIMAC GENETIC HYATT
INQUIRER appetite ICOOK Entrepreneur FLAVORS FOOD
www.wofex.com

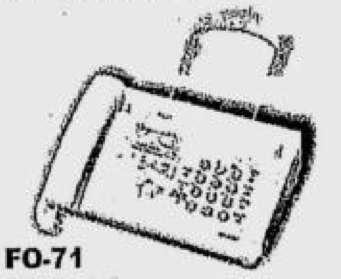
SHARP
FAXMACHINE

Thank You for making us No.1

Never Miss an Important fax message with the SHARP out of paper memory Advantage

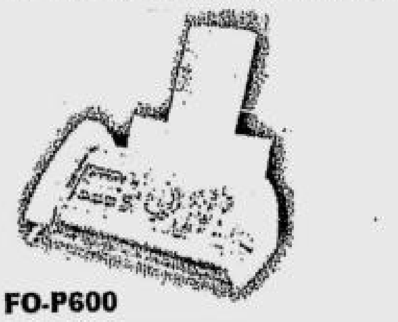
Thermal fax machine

FO-51
448 kb out of paper memory
Basic (non-cutter)
30 m. thermal roll
40 auto dialer
5-sheet Automatic Doc. Feeder
15 sec. transmission
64 Level Half Tone



FO-71
448 kb out of paper memory
Basic (auto-cutter)
30 m. thermal roll
40 auto dialer
5-sheet Automatic Doc. Feeder
15 sec. transmission
64 Level Half Tone

Plain paper fax- thermal transfer



FO-P600
448 Kb out of paper memory (Approx. 24 pages)
64 Level Half Tone
30 auto dialer
10-sheet Automatic Doc. Feeder
50-sheet paper tray
Broadcasting
Memory Transmission
15 sec. transmission

FO-A650
Built in digital answering machine
448 Kb out of paper memory (Approx. 24 pages)
64 Level Half Tone
30 auto dialer
10-sheet Automatic Doc. Feeder
50-sheet paper tray
Broadcasting
Memory Transmission
15 sec. transmission

Distributed by:
ASTECH PENGSON DISTRIBUTORS INC.

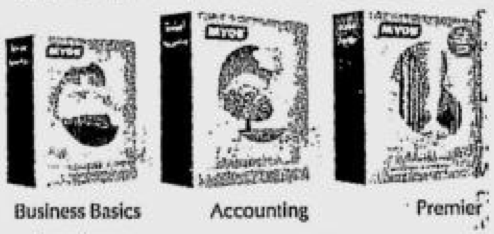
MANILA
833 Sheridan Steet
Mandaluyong City
Telefax: (02) 634 8351-59

CEBU
Castillex Compound
Mandaue Cebu City
Telefax: (032) 344-1185

DAVAO
Ground Flr. Villa Abrille Bldg.
C.M. Recto cor. Jacinto Sts.
Davao City
Telefax: (082) 221-0686

The easy solution to your business balancing act.

Manage your business and your finances like a Certified Public Accountant. All it takes is a user-friendly package to create a small system in your business that automates repetitive accounting tasks. Introducing **MYOB**, an award-winning finance and accounting software solution for your accounting needs. Now you can **Mind Your Own Business.** Your company now lies in your hands! With **MYOB**, not only can you balance your financial statements... you can balance your time as well.



Business Basics Accounting Premier

For as low as Php 5995.00

Distributed by:
BCS Systems & Technology, Inc.
G/F H&M Building, 13-15 Linaw Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City, Philippines
Phone: (632) 448-5128 to 34 Fax: (632) 712-6446 Email: myob@bcssti.com

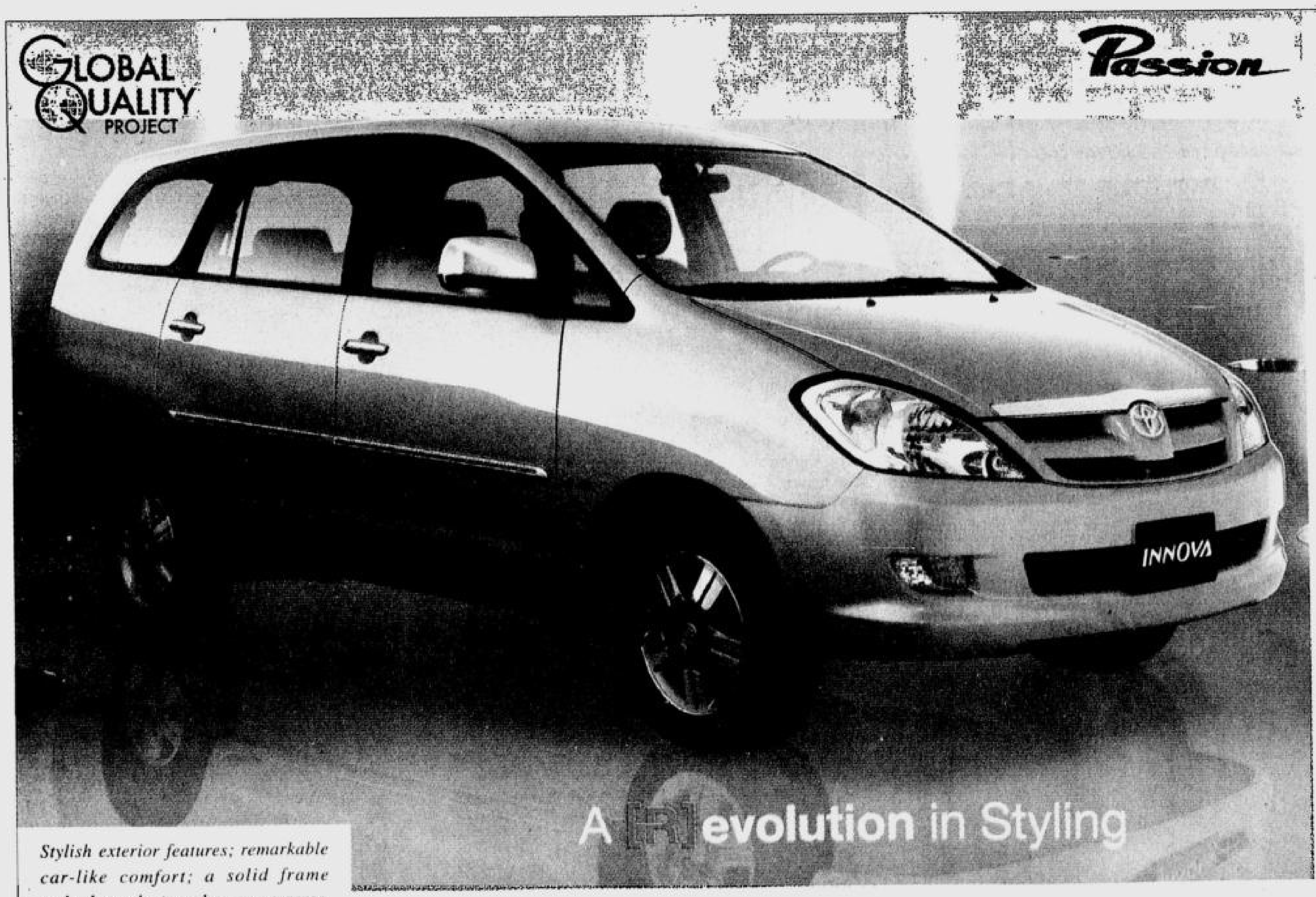
Now's your chance to **Mind Your Own Business with MYOB!**

We are looking for interested Nationwide Business Partners for MYOB products. Call us now!

Sign up now for a Free Trial Version or attend our Free Advantage Workshop! Just call (632) 448-5128 to 34 or fax this form to (632) 712 6446.

Name:__________
Address:__________
Tel. No.:__________ Fax No.:__________ Mobile No.:__________
Email Address:__________ Occupation:__________ Company Name:__________
Office Address:__________
Office Tel. No.:__________ Office Fax No.:__________

MYOB
Mind Your Own Business. Smarter.
www.myob.com



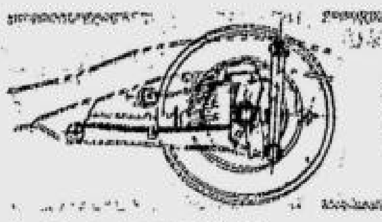
Stylish exterior features; remarkable car-like comfort; a solid frame and enhanced suspension; no-nonsense, all-around safety; and technologically-advanced engines, all with the promise of global quality. With a choice of the latest Common-Rail diesel engine as well as the Variable Valve Timing-intelligent (VVT-i) gasoline engine, both engineered for boosted power, performance and efficiency.

Welcome a beautiful revolution for the Filipino family.

D-4D
VVT-i

A [R] evolution in Power

High-performance 2.5L Common-Rail diesel engine and the 2.0L Variable Valve Timing-intelligent (VVT-i) gasoline engine.



A [R] evolution in Comfort and Luxury

Luxurious interior amenities and cutting edge features like 4-link coil spring rear suspension make for a comfortable and pleasurable ride.

A [R] evolution in Safety

No-nonsense, all-around safety.

INNOVA
A Beautiful [R] evolution

3 YEAR WARRANTY
www.toyota.com.ph

TOYOTA

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., Alabang-Zapote Rd cor. Concha Cruz Drive 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, Gardenville Subdivision, Araneta St., Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY Bokawkan Road cor. Aguila St., Baguio City (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., EDSA cor. Vicente Ang & Gen. Evangelista Sts., Kalookan City 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364 4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 1010 Epifanio De Los Santos Ave. (EDSA), Quezon City 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Barangay Balagtas, Batangas City (043) 723-7366 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC., Km. 118 Maharlika Highway, Daang Sarile, Cabanatuan City (044) 463-8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC. Km. 3 National Highway, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737-480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., 34 M.J. Cuenco St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE, Tabok, Mandaue City (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 926 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Barangay San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522-6771 / 6734 / 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE, Salitran II, Aguinaldo Highway, Dasmariñas, Cavite (046) 850-2036 / (046) 850 2920 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC. Km. 6 Lanang, Davao City (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234 8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., Gran Plains Subd., Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 320 6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI INC., Ayala cor. Metropolitan Avenues, Makati City 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION Brgy. Sto. Niño, Sumulong Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 1770 Paz M. Guazon St., Paco, Manila 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 2292 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 893 8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 728 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, Olongapo-Gapan Road, San Fernando, Pampanga (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 309 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City 671-9854 to 64 / 671-0460

INNOVA REVOLUTION TOUR

Catch the Toyota Innova as it tours the country this summer.

Come and enjoy these great deals and treats:

- On-site assistance of Toyota Financial Services representatives
- Free Maintenance Check-up for all Toyota vehicles
- Special giveaways

Call the Toyota dealer nearest your area for more details!

TOUR SCHEDULE:

- ***April 11-12, 2005:*** Zamboanga del Norte, Old Cultural Ground, Gen. Luna St., Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte
- ***April 11-16, 2005:*** Pascual Bldg., Brgy. 1, National Highway, San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte
- ***April 11-17, 2005:*** DRT Highway, Sto. Cristo, Pulilan, Bulacan (Between Max's & Equitable Bank)
- ***April 11-17, 2005:*** Caltex Service Station, McArthur Highway, Tikay, Malolos, Bulacan
- ***April 11-17, 2005:*** Balanga Plaza, Balanga City Hall, Bataan
- ***April 14-15, 2005:*** Sto. Niño Shell Station 2, Don A. Bernao Ave., Ozamis City, Misamis Occidental
- ***April 14-16, 2005:*** Shell Uptown Service Station, Alunan Ave., Koronadal City, South Cotabato
- ***April 14-16, 2005:*** Calamba Central Market, Brgy. Rizal St., Legaspi City, Albay
- ***April 15-17, 2005:*** Ormoc Super Shell, Lilia Ave., Cogon, Ormoc City
- ***April 15-17, 2005:*** Cadiz, MS Shell Corp., Villena St., Cadiz City, Negros Occidental
- ***April 15-17, 2005:*** Gaisano City Mall, Roxas City, Capiz

TOYOTA
FINANCIAL SERVICES
FOR A TOYOTA, GO TO TOYOTA.

Ayala unit to expand in Asia, US

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

AYALA International Pte. Ltd., the Ayala group's property development arm for overseas markets, plans to invest $60 million over the next five years in property projects in Asia and North America.

AIPL president Charles Cosgrove said in a briefing last week that the planned investment would be split about evenly between Southeast Asia and North America.

He added that the Ayala-led subsidiary might complete another project in Thailand this year.

Although he did not reveal other foreign markets AIPL was evaluating, Cosgrove said it was looking at Asia "where the level of home ownership is low."

"We want to participate in the positive trend, that this (market) rises with economic growth. But it is not an easy market since there are no mortgage loans for example," Cosgrove said.

AIPL last year partnered with Narai Property, a family-owned company in Thailand, for the development of three condominium blocks, consisting of 208 units, in Ratchadapisek Road in Bangkok.

The company invested $2 million for a 40-percent stake in the middle market Thai project.

Cosgrove had said 75 percent of the units were sold since October last year, while construction had recently been awarded to a local contractor.

"We are quite optimistic about the long-term prospects in Thailand for the kinds of investments we have in mind," he said.

Ayala Corp. president Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II noted during a recent stockholders' meeting that AIPL earned a net income of P377 million last year, up 56 percent from the previous year.

"This year's performance was boosted by the gain on sale of Grosvenor Place in Hong Kong as well as several apartment units in the US , Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur," Zobel said.

He added that the improved profits was driven by lower operating expenses as the company streamlined its organization.

AIPL's investments are focused on a variety of real estate projects in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Thailand.

"In the long-term, Ayala International is envisioned to establish a regional name in the property sector with a portfolio that maximizes opportunity for growth that will add to the overall value of the Ayala group," Zobel said.

AIPL began investing in the United States in 2003, and has nine projects to date. It has sold one of its interests last year and is looking to sell two to three more projects this year.

G & W clubshares
SEC License Broker No.: A-17597
FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE
As of April 11, 2005
SHARES AVAILABLE

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club A/B*	1,150,000/1,180,000*	-
Alta Vista A/B*	250,000	180,000/220,000*
Baguio Country Club	Pls. Call	500,000
Calatagan Golf	50,000	-
Camp John Hay	100,000	-
Canyon Woods	140,000	-
Capitol Hills	110,000	-
Cebu Country Club	Pls. Call	-
Celebrity Sports	140,000	100,000
City Sports Club Cebu	Pls. Call	-
Eagleridge A/B*/C**	210,000/290,000*/Pls. Call**	-
Eastridge A/B*	130,000*	85,000*
Forest Hills A/B*/C**	130,000/180,000*/200,000**	110,000/160,000*
Manila Golf Corporate	Pls. Call	11,500,000
Manila Golf Individual	Pls. Call	-
Manila Polo	Pls. Call	2,000,000
Manila Southwoods A/B*	Pls. Call*	370,000/670,000*
Makati Sports Club	210,000	170,000
Metropolitan Club A/B*	150,000/200,000*	110,000
Mimosa C2/C3*	220,000	260,000*
Mimosa Golf Ind.	160,000	-
Mt. Malarayat A/B*	190,000	150,000
Orchard A/B*/C**	280,000*	150,000
Puerto Azul	60,000	-
Riviera Golf A/B*/C**	-	180,000**
Rockwell Leisure Club	280,000	230,000
Royale Tagaytay CC	80,000	-
Sherwood A/B*/C**	70,000/110,000*/160,000**	-
Sta. Elena Golf A/B*	1,200,000/1,600,000*	Pls. Call
The Palms Country Club	650,000	470,000
Tagaytay Country Club	Pls. Call	370,000
Tagaytay Highlands	800,000	-
Tagaytay Midlands	700,000	600,000
The Country Club	2,000,000	-
Valle Verde Ind.	120,000	-
Valley Golf	280,000	-
Wack Wack Golf	Pls. Call	Pls. Call

Tel. 7723246-49/8504151-52/8426731
8092038/(0917)3287789
E-mail:gwclubshares@pacific.net.ph

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of April 11, 2005

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,150,000	1,050,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,200,000	-
Baguio Country Club	550,000	500,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	40,000	-
Camp John Hay	175,000	-
Canlubang	-	450,000
Canyon Woods	140,000	-
Capitol Hills	100,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,900,000	-
Celebrity Sports Club	120,000	80,000
Club Filipino	150,000	100,000
Eagleridge "A"	200,000	180,000
Eagleridge "B"	290,000	-
Eagleridge "C"	300,000	-
Fairways "C3"	-	300,000
Forest Hills "A"	160,000	110,000
Forest Hills "B"	180,000	-
Forest Hills "C"	200,000	-
Makati Sports Club "A"	190,000	170,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	200,000	190,000
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	11,600,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	11,400,000	Please Call
Manila Polo	2,250,000	Please Call
Manila Southwoods "A"	400,000	350,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	-	700,000
Manila Yacht Club	400,000	300,000
Metroclub "A"	150,000	-
Mimosa (Individual)	160,000	Please Call
Mimosa (Corporate)	350,000	290,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "A"	250,000	-
Mt. Malarayat Gold "C"	300,000	180,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	180,000	150,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	450,000	320,000
Quezon City Sports Club	160,000	140,000
Rockwell	Please Call	-
Spa & Lodge	650,000	500,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,300,000	-
Sta. Elena "B"	-	1,300,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	170,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	100,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	400,000	370,000
Tagaytay Highlands	750,000	700,000
Tagaytay Midlands	700,000	680,000
Valle Verde (Individual)	120,000	100,000
Valle Verde (Corporate)	200,000	-
Valley Golf	300,000	240,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	-	6,000,000

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

For more information, please call:
Tel.no. 840-1761 (Fax 894-3021 (Mobile 0927-8765673
or e-mail at ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg., Sen Gil Puyat cor Makati Ave., Makati City

CLUB SHARES BY CREDIT CARD !!!
You may now charge your purchase or lease of clubshares using your credit card. Great deals for deferred payment transaction await major accredited cardholders. For inquiries, call our hotline 751-GOLF / trunk line 840-1761, or log on to www.ggaclubshares.com for more details

FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982 •
SEC License #2115
OUR 23rd Year
BUY/SELL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
As of April 8, 2005

CLUB	SELLING	BUYING
Alabang Country Club "A"	1.050M	1M
Alabang Country Club "B"	1.1M	
Baguio Country Club	650K	500K
Camp John Hay	170K	-
Canlubang Golf Club	please call	-
Canyon Woods	125K	
Capitol Hills "A"	100K	80K
Celebrity Sports Club	115K	-
Club Filipino	120K	
Club Punta Fuego	500K	400K
Eagleridge Golf Club "A"	200K	180K
Eagleridge Golf Club "B"	290K	-
Eagleridge Golf Club "C"	280K	
Eastridge Golf Club "A"	100K	70K
Eastridge Golf Club "B"	125K	100K
Forest Hills Golf Club "C"		200K
Makati Sports Club "A"	160K	
Manila Golf Club (Indiv.)	please call	11.3M
Manila Polo Club	2.130M	2M
Manila Yacht Club	-	330K
Manila Southwoods "B"		700K
Metro Club "A"	120K	-
Orchard Golf Club "A"	180K	300K
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	340K
Orchard Golf Club "C"	-	30K
Phil. Columbian Association		
Riviera Golf Club "A"	100K	150K
Riviera Golf Club "B"		
Rockwell Leisure Club	280K	-
Spa & Lodge	500K	
Sta. Elena Golf Club "A"		1.1M
Sta. Elena Golf Club "B"	1.8M	-
Tagaytay Highlands Golf Club	750K	
Tagaytay Midlands		650K
Tower Club (Individual)	300K	-

LESSORS for PLAYING RIGHTS also available
please call / inquire
AMIE MAGAT / VIRGIE LIM / REY CUEVAS / ROMY RIBAÑO
Tels: 818-6991 • 818-6948 • 818-6936 Fax #818-5453
E-MAIL ADDRESS: fvrhi@info.com.ph

PLEASE CUT & SAVE THIS AD. ONE TIME PRESS RELEASE ONLY
MASTER THE RULES OF CORRECT BEHAVIOR IN THE PRACTICE OF DIPLOMACY
CENTER FOR GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES
presents
"A diplomat distinguishes himself from other professionals principally by his knowledge and practice of Protocol."
Ambassador Luis Moreno-Salcedo
Author, A Guide To Protocol
BEST PRACTICES IN PROTOCOL FOR BUSINESS ADVANTAGE
UNDERSTANDING BEST PRACTICES IN DIPLOMACY AS A GUIDE TO ONE'S CONDUCT
Who Should Attend:
- Presidents & CEOs
- Businessmen & Spouses
- International Traders
- Negotiators
- Bankers
- Event Organizers
- Government Officials
- [illegible]
- Students
1PM to 5:30PM "AIM CONFERENCE CENTER" Friday, MAY 6, 2005
Lecturer & Speaker: Ambassador Jose Abeto Zaide, Chief of Protocol, Department of Foreign Affairs. As a career diplomat, he has 37 years of solid experience in diplomacy and foreign affairs. Prior to his present position, he was assigned as Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, Slovenia, and Croatia. He was also the permanent representative to the International Organizations in Vienna. His foreign postings include Moscow, Brussels, New Delhi, Bonn, and Hamburg in various capacities as a diplomat.
INQUIRER BusinessWorld
LIMITED SLOTS ONLY
RE-SERVE NOW and avail EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS
CALL: (+63 2) 842-7148 or 59 [illegible] or 893 44 or [illegible] of [illegible]
EMAIL: henry@cgbp.org
THE BENEFIT
Protocol, the universal language of correct behavior for effective diplomacy, can enhance the competitiveness of the global executive in the 21st century borderless economy.
Mastering the practice of protocol in business and everyday life is essential in any situation whether one is negotiating, marketing, dealing with people of different cultures, meeting with foreign dignitaries, or simply chatting with one's in-laws. Attend and master the art of "putting your best face forward." A MUST FOR EVERYONE!
★★★★★

8 KEYS TO YOUR DIFFERENT INTERESTS
SATURDAY
2BU! SURVEY Do you celebrate Valen
STYLE
INQUIRER Badminton
ELAN
A change of heart
INQUIRER Golf
Oldies but Goodies
Sunday INQUIRER
Sweetheart Season
Junior INQUIRER
JOB Market
We want YOU!
eReps
FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
RECRUITMENT
Only from PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Cocktales

From page B3

ters," the Yulo's Sta. Rosa Realty Development in late 1985 fenced off the area after cutting the trees and burning down the settlers' houses.

Despite the Aquino government, through then Agrarian Reform Secretary Miriam Defensor Santiago, having already awarded land titles to the settlers, the Yulos continued to ignore the P7.8-million compensation and pressed on with their multiple court cases.

The Yulos, in vain, even used a 1976 Cabuyao government declaration that classified Casile as a municipal park to stave off the area from being taken over by the national government for land reform.

Deflowered festivals

NESTLE and its advertising agency Publicis are on the carpet from the organizers of the still ongoing Panagbenga Flower Festival in Baguio, according to the city's Sun Star newspaper.

Publicis-Dialog, the festival marketing agency, apparently failed to deliver the P15 million in revenues that the agency had committed, remitting only P5.9 million, while Nestle is being flayed for backing out of a promised sponsorship at the last minute, while at the same time staging "guerrilla advertising" throughout the festival.

According to Sun Star, Nestle tried to make amends by trying to offer a P150,000 "settlement" to flower festival president Nelia Cid, but the feisty lady, in a stinging letter to the Swiss multinational, instead asked Nestle to name their favorite charity "and I will donate P150,000 to it."

Because of the row, Nestle subsequently cancelled the Bear Brand kite festival that had been scheduled on April Fools' weekend.

Money-go-round

- THE AD agency J Walter Thompson has been hit by a mass exodus of its Unilever account management and creative divisions, apparently as a result of disagreements with JWT's new expatriate country manager.
- BMW and Chrysler will fight for the same automobile market-cocktail crowd this evening with their respective vehicle launches; Chrysler with its 300C and the new Town and Country and Dodge Durango editions, BMW with its new 3 Series.

BMW upped the ante by offering Lufthansa business class tickets to Munich and a week-long driving experience in Europe to the lucky guests.

Heard through the grapevine

THE ADMINISTRATION of the P8.4-billion coco levy-funded Agusan del Sur coconut reforestation project is the bone of contention between Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap and Administrator Evangeline Valbuena of the Philippine Coconut Authority, with Yap apparently having already gotten Malacañang's go-signal to find a PCA replacement.

Valbuena, incidentally, had been with Macapagal-Arroyo at the Department of Trade and Industry when GMA was still undersecretary.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of April 8, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco De Oro Univ. Bank	27.5	28	27	28	550,300
Bank of the Phil. Islands	50	50	48.5	50	1,179,500
Citystate Savings Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	800
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.75	0.77	0.75	0.76	1,040,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	47	47.5	47	47	18,100
International Exch. Bank	18	18	18	18	6,500
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	33.5	34	33	33	341,000
Philippine National Bank	31	31	30.5	31	48,000
Phil. Savings Bank	32	34	32	34	1,600
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13.75	14	13.75	13.75	61,500
Security Bank Corp.	26.50	28	26.5	28	40,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	29	29	29	29	3,200
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
First Metro Invest. Corp.	285	300	285	285	380
Manulife Financial Corp.	2515	2515	2515	2515	460
Pci Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	96,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	151	151	151	151	900
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1720	1720	1720	1720	30
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	15	15	14.5	14.5	111,500
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	1.18	1.12	1.12	1.12	4,537,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	845	845	835	835	80,330
Ipeople Inc.	4.35	4.35	4.3	4.3	28,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.047	0.05	0.047	0.05	3,100,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.25	3.35	3.25	3.3	860,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel. Co.	1400	1400	1390	1395	110,450
Philweb Corp.	.0200	0.02	0.02	0.02	28,200,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	18	18	18	18	17,700
Manila Electric Co. B	25.5	25.5	25	25.5	183,500
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4	1,942,000
Petron Corp.	3.45	3.45	3.35	3.4	4,173,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	1,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	100,000
Int'l Container Term'l SV	7.2	7.2	7	7.1	1,808,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.52	0.52	0.51	0.52	220,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.64	0.66	0.64	0.65	2,940,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	3.45	3.5	3.45	3.45	808,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.40	3.4	3.4	3.4	50,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	34	34	34	34	220,800
Jollibee Foods Corp.	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	21,500
San Miguel Corp. A	56	57	56	57	26,300
San Miguel Corp. B	81	81	80.5	81	94,100
Universal Robina Corp.	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	30,000
Vitarich Corp.	.2900	0.29	0.29	0.29	1,500,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	5,000,000
Ayala Corp.	7.30	7.3	7.1	7.2	4,880,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8	548,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.044	0.044	0.043	0.043	2,500,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.10	2.12	2.08	2.1	458,000
APC Group Inc.	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.38	2,930,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	14.5	15	14.5	15	6,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.04	1.04	1.02	1.02	6,717,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	500,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	470,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.3	3.3	3.15	3.15	1,807,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	93,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	9	9	9	9	510,000
First Phil Hldgs. Corp.	50	50.5	49.5	50	775,300
Global Equities Inc.	0.0925	0.095	0.09	0.09	6,700,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.62	1.62	1.6	1.62	200,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.4	3.45	3.4	3.4	169,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.90	1.9	1.9	1.9	10,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.32	1.32	3,245,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.44	20,140,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	150,000
SM Investments Corp.	246	246	241	245	942,960
South China Resources Inc.	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.67	60,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.165	0.165	540,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	20,000
Music Semiconductors Corp	1.62	1.62	1.6	1.6	240,000
Picop Resources Inc.	1250	0.125	0.125	0.125	700,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SER VICES					
Belle Corporation	1.3	1.32	1.3	1.3	4,257,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.99	750,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.4	1.44	1.4	1.44	652,000
Premiere Ent. Prod., Inc.	0.29	0.3	0.29	0.3	2,800,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	14.5	14.5	14	14.5	1,081,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	400
OTHERS					
Far Eastern University	460.0	460	450	450	1,550
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	8	8.1	7.6	8	16,799,000
Cityland Development Corp.	1.42	1.42	1.4	1.4	221,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93	390,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.29	0.3	0.29	0.3	90,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	.2600	0.27	0.26	0.27	1,500,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	5,260,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.4	1.44	1.4	1.42	5,775,000
Mrc Allied Ind. Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	190,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.9	1,530,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.25	0.25	0.245	0.245	1,180,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	6,770,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	70,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	25,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.2	160,000
Benguet Corp. A	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5	15,000
Benguet Corp. B	25	25	25	25	15,800
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.34	0.35	0.33	0.34	2,850,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.36	0.37	0.35	0.35	8,900,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.016	0.016	0.015	0.015	21,400,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.021	0.021	0.02	0.021	45,100,000
Omico Corp.	.0075	0.0075	0.007	0.0075	174,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	1.08	1.1	1.08	1.08	950,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.34	1.34	1.32	1.32	703,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	34.5	35	34	34.5	242,500
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	210,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	6,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	50,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	320,000
Pacifica	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	12,000
Sinophil Corp.	.1900	0.195	0.185	0.185	5,890,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	330,000

CURRENCIES

April 8, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.777665448	1.000000	54.7210
Japan	Yen	0.007159	0.009206	0.5038
United Kingdom	Pound	1.454234	1.870000	102.3283
Hongkong	Dollar	0.099714	0.128222	7.0164
Switzerland	Franc	0.644296	0.828500	45.3363
Canada	Dollar	0.63644	0.818398	44.7836
Singapore	Dollar	0.468812	0.602845	32.9883
Australia	Dollar	0.59756	0.768403	42.0478
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.062828	2.652590	145.1524
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.207372	0.266660	14.5919
Brunei	Dollar	0.467403	0.601034	32.8892
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000082	0.000105	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.019641	0.025256	1.3820
UAE	Dirham	0.211737	0.272272	14.8990
Euro	Euro	1	1.285900	70.3657
Argentina	Peso	0.269554	0.346620	18.9674
Brazil	REAL	0.299678	0.385356	21.0871
Denmark	Kroner	0.134226	0.172601	9.4449
India	Rupee	0.017824	0.022920	1.2542
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.204676	0.263193	14.4022
Mexico	New Peso	0.069589	0.089485	4.8967
New Zealand	Dollar	0.55627	0.715308	39.1424
Norway	Kroner	0.122404	0.157399	8.6130
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013101	0.016846	0.9218
South Africa	Rand	0.127277	0.163666	8.9560
Korea	Won	0.000768	0.000988	0.0541
Sweden	Kroner	0.109219	0.140445	7.6853
Syria	Pound	0.014981	0.019264	1.0541
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024682	0.031739	1.7368
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000362	0.000466	0.0255

Investors getting . . .

From page B1

that it had initiated.

The DOF said the passage of the VAT reform bill, which elicited stiff resistance from militant groups and is still being deliberated in the Senate, was crucial because a lot of foreign investors were keeping an eye on its progress.

The Arroyo administration is banking largely on reforming the VAT system to solve is fiscal woes. The government estimates to generate about P60 billion in additional revenue a year from the twin VAT measures of raising the rate to 12 percent and lifting VAT exemptions.

Aside from the VAT reform, Beltran said, the foreign fund managers were also keen on the progress of the government's efforts to privatize assets of National Power Corp., and its foreign borrowing program for the year.

Purisima's plan to raise withholding tax rates

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

MICHELLE Remo of the Philippine Daily Inquirer reported last week that "the Department of Finance has tasked the Bureau of Internal Revenue to study the feasibility and revenue impact of adjusting the various withholding tax rates, noting that the government collects more taxes through the withholding system rather than the self-filing scheme."

The BIR collects more from withholding taxes for one simple reason: The rates are effectively much higher than the actual income tax rates.

I was just starting out on my insurance career when the withholding tax was introduced about 50 years ago. The tax was applied only on wage earners. I welcomed the idea.

Instead of paying my income tax in one lump sum when I filed my return in April, my employer deducted one-twelfth of my estimated income tax from my salary.

In effect, I paid my income tax in advance but in painless installments.

Being an advance against the income tax, the withholding tax is supposed to approximate the eventual income tax. This principle is embodied in the BIR's implementing rules and affirmed by the Supreme Court.

Today, however, the withholding tax on salaried employees oftentimes exceeds the eventual income tax.

Of course, at the end of the calendar year, the excess is applied against the withholding tax due the following January.

Nonetheless, during the calendar year, the employee is out-of-pocket.

The 1997 tax code (I call it the Ramos Tax Code) and BIR's implementing rules expanded the scope of the withholding tax system to include non-salaried taxpayers (natural or juridical), such as doctors, lawyers, accountants, engineers, actors, entertainers, actuaries, insurance adjusters, agents, and brokers.

The code allows the BIR to charge a withholding tax rate anywhere from 1 to 32 percent of gross income, repeat, gross income (Congress virtually abdicated its legislative powers when the BIR was granted this wide discretion).

As a result, the withholding tax rate varies with the taxpayer.

Here lies the problem of the taxpayer: The withholding tax is computed on the gross income and credited against the eventual tax on the net income.

Take the insurance broker. The withholding tax rate is 10 percent of gross income. But records at the Insurance Commission show that, from 2001 to 2003, the average income tax paid by the entire broking profession was only 7.5 percent of gross income.

The insurance agent is the hardest hit. An agent earning P720,000 a year is slapped a withholding tax of 15 percent of gross income, or P108,000.

In order for this P108,000 to be fully credited against the eventual income tax, the agent (natural or juridical) will have to earn a net taxable income, or net profit, of about 48 percent of the gross income.

This profit margin is simply impossible to attain in a highly competitive endeavor as insurance selling.

The withholding tax is not only excessive, it is oppressive.

Anyway, the BIR says, the excess withholding tax is refundable. But there is a deadline for filing for a refund.

If you miss the deadline, you lose the refund forever. If you do file for a refund before the deadline, you will never hear from the BIR anyway.

Considering the impossible task of getting a refund, insurance agents and brokers do not bother to chase their refunds anymore.

In the end, the withholding tax on gross income becomes the final income tax.

Nowhere in the whole world is a taxpayer slapped with a 15 percent tax on gross income.

Through the withholding tax system, the BIR collects the income tax in advance and in excess.

The BIR is holding billions of withholding taxes that will never be refunded to the taxpayers.

Instead of raising the withholding tax rates, Secretary Purisima should roll them back to a flat 5 percent.

The fiscal problem of the government should not be solved by gouging the withholding taxpayers.

BSP won't follow in Fed's footsteps

By Doris C. Dumlao

ALTHOUGH recently prompted to hike its overnight rates for the first time in nearly five years, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said it was not inclined to follow the series of interest rate increases planned by the US Federal Reserve.

"This is not the start of a series of (monetary) tightening," said BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. who is set to become the country's chief monetary official in July.

The policy-making Monetary Board of the BSP last week raised the overnight borrowing or reverse repurchase rate by 25 basis points to 7 percent, and the overnight lending or repurchase rate to 9.25 percent.

The rates were last adjusted upward in October 2000, but were eased afterwards.

Since July 2003 until the Monetary Board's meeting last week, these rates were kept steady at 6.75 percent for overnight borrowing and 9 percent for overnight lending.

Tetangco said key rates were increased due to threats posed by rising oil prices, even as the peso's strong rebound against the US dollar since the start of the year should cushion the adverse effects of skyrocketing oil prices.

"This is one example of an external shock that can affect domestic prices. We just have to be continuously aware of the effects. We'll continue to watch it closely," he said.

Higher short-term interest rates tend to discourage consumer spending as these translate to higher monthly payments on credit card payments.

On the other hand, a tightening tends to encourage people to shift to fixed income and other savings instruments as higher rates result in higher yields.

Concerns of further rate increases by the BSP surfaced on expectations that the US Fed was not yet done with increasing its key rates that affect those of the rest of the world.

Over the past seven consecutive quarters, the counterpart US Fed has hiked its overnight funds by 25 basis points to 2.75 percent.

Former US central bank official Alan Blinder even predicted that short-term rates might go up not by one-quarter percent, but by one-half percent, to fight inflation pressures from runaway oil prices.

Tetangco also said in an interview that the BSP had no plans yet of tightening up the system by increasing the banks' reserve requirement, an alternative way of mopping up excess cash in the financial system.

The BSP's policy-making Monetary Board last hiked the reserve requirement on peso deposits and deposit substitutes of banks and quasi-banks by 2 percentage points to 19 percent in February last year, as an early response to threats arising from the sharp drop in the value of the peso against the dollar at that time.

Meanwhile, Philippine inflation rate peaked at 8.5 percent in March, the same rate in the previous month based on the updated 2000 consumer price index.

The BSP has acknowledged that pressures from consumer demand remained limited given high unemployment, modest credit growth and spare capacity in manufacturing.

However, it knew that there was pressure on prices to go even higher due to oil prices, which are expected to remain high in the near term.

DOE sets fund for alternate fuels

TO ENCOURAGE the use of alternative transport fuels, the Department of Energy has established an Alternative Fuels Fund to which both the government and the private sector will contribute.

Based on DOE department circular 2005-03-002, the fund would mainly come from a special budget to be requested from the Department of Budget and Management.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. would also give to the fund using part of the proceeds from the sale of compressed natural gas (CNG).

A memorandum of agreement that the DOE signed with Shell in January stated that 52 centavos per 1 normal cubic meter of CNG sold would be placed in the fund.

The government is now pushing measures that will ease the country's dependence on imported fuels, in light of the escalating prices of petroleum products in the world market.

One of these measures is the promotion of the use of alternative fuels like CNG, coco methyl ester (CME)-blended diesel and ethanol-blended gasoline.

Abigail L. Ho

No More IDD!

Internet Calling is never been easier, purchase one pair of IP Phones, you and your loved one can enjoy talking on the internet, no minute charge!

- Easy Installation
- Call To Any Phone
- Call To Anywhere
- Good Voice Quality
- Money Back Guarantee#

obtain a full refund of the IP Phone if you return the phone to us within 7 days after installation, used minute charge will not be refunded.

Want to know more?
Call our distributors:
Telecom Dimension Inc (02)7505698 to 99
Advance Microsystem (02) 6354181
10th Story (02) 7412262 Gerry

Phone and service are provided by
Asia On Net Limited +852 2284 4181

It just keeps getting better and better.

Introducing, InFocus X2 - the next level to the phenomenal X1!

InFocus X2, the new and improved dual-duty digital projector that shines during the workday, and on into an entertaining evening. All you'll ever need for work and beyond packed in a powerful package guaranteed to give you twice the edge over your presentations even as it doubles the excitement of your home entertainment.

InFocus® X2

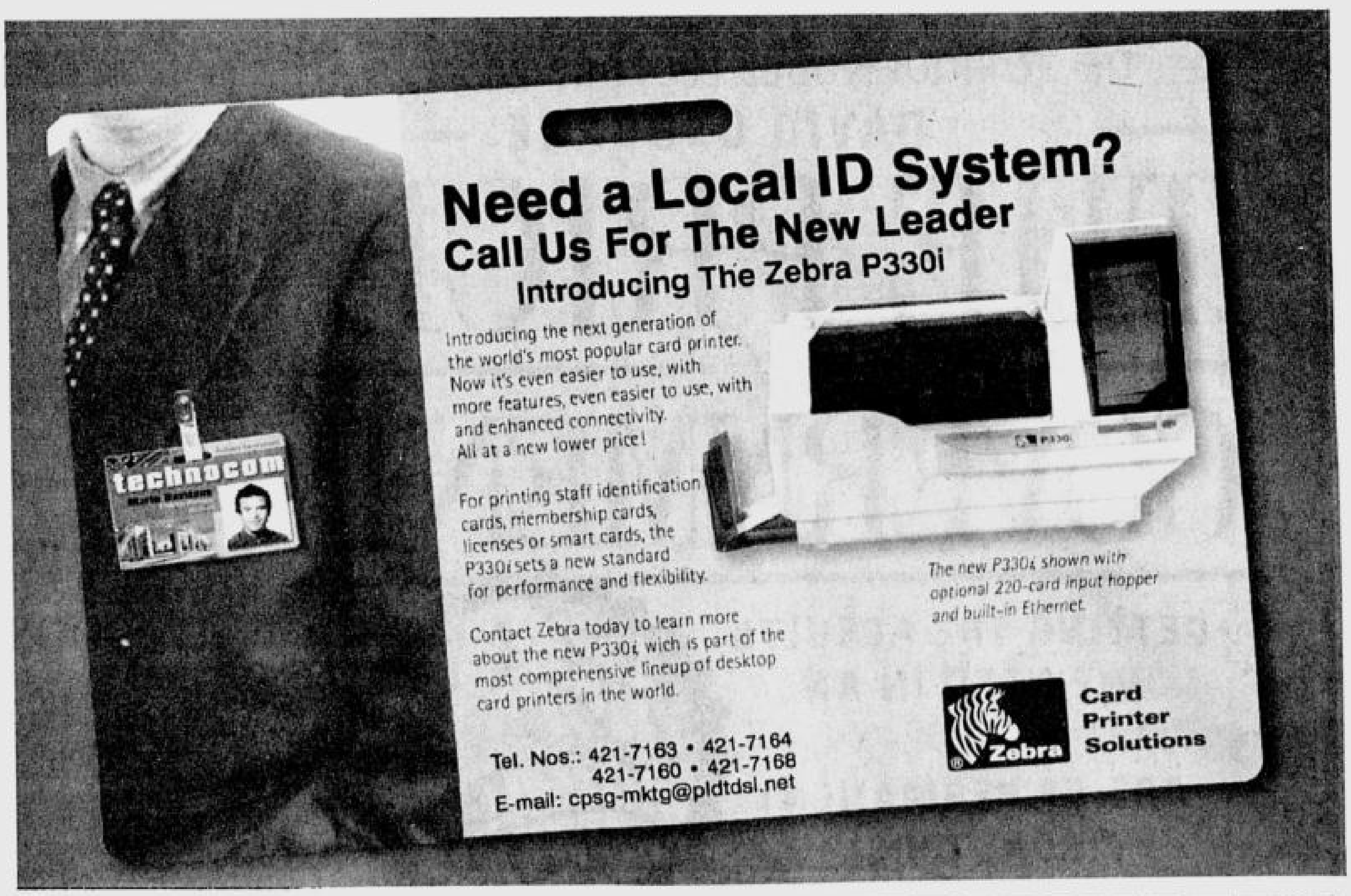
DLP™ Technology • 1600 max ANSI lumens
2000:1 Contrast Ratio • 3000 Lamp Hours

For a free demo of this and/or other models, call 723-0601 or visit www.infocus.com.

InFocus®
The Worldwide Leader in Digital Projection

Exclusively distributed by:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
455 Gen. Bautista St., San Juan, Metro Manila
url: www.ati.com.ph e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951

[illegible]



Need a Local ID System?
Call Us For The New Leader
Introducing The Zebra P330i

Introducing the next generation of the world's most popular card printer. Now it's even easier to use, with more features, even easier to use, with and enhanced connectivity. All at a new lower price!

For printing staff identification cards, membership cards, licenses or smart cards, the P330i sets a new standard for performance and flexibility.

Contact Zebra today to learn more about the new P330i wich is part of the most comprehensive lineup of desktop card printers in the world.

The new P330i shown with optional 220-card input hopper and built-in Ethernet.

Tel. Nos.: 421-7163 • 421-7164
421-7160 • 421-7168
E-mail: cpsg-mktg@pldtdsl.net

Zebra Card Printer Solutions

Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!

OPEN HOUSE
"BUSINESS FOR THE BIG BOYS"
Hotel Intercon Manila • Apr 16, 2005
1pm to 5pm

Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.

Cut your cost of sticker-making

SP-300
Personalized Stickers
T-shirt Transfers
Product ID Labels
Merchandising Labels
Auto decals

Print & Cut
single decal or bulk quantities cost-effectively!
- NO EXTRA COST on die-cutting
- NO EXTRA COST on color separation
- NO EXTRA COST on lamination

Exclusive Distributor:
Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS

Tel: 726-3991 to 98
locals 232, 204, 203
Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tgraf.com.ph
www.tgraf.com.ph

Other Tgraf business packages include Roland SJ-740 printer for large-format printing, Roland SJ-1000 & WitColor Ultra for Billboard printing, Roland Cutters for vinyl signmaking, Roland Models for 3D engraving and modeling, Javelin printer & CIM embossor for ID card production, LaserPro for laser engraving, Xerox Phaser color printers for Print-on-Demand, Ilford Studio digital photo enlargements for professional photographers, ECRM imagesetters for color separation, Roland Metaza for photographic metal engraving, Stampede for rubber stamp-making, and more. Call us NOW and put yourself in a fresh, new business!

REVENUE MEASURE

Gov't mulling over across-the-board hike in tariffs

By Ronnel W. Domingo

RAISING government revenues through an across-the-board increase in tariffs is being considered amid an ongoing comprehensive review of tariff rates, a source in government said.

According to the source, who is privy to the matter, the move is expected to be taken up at the Cabinet-level Committee on Tariffs and Related Matters (CTRM).

The move was prompted by a government study that showed the country's most favored nation (MFN) tariffs was the lowest in the region.

The MFN tariffs apply to products imported from outside Southeast Asia. Tariffs within the region are, in most cases, the same due to the Asean (Association of Southeast Nations) Free Trade Area's Comprehensive Effective Preferential Tariff scheme.

According to the source, a study has been done on the average tariff ranges of individual Asean members, as well as those in China. The study shows that the Philippines may increase existing MFN rates by about 3 percent, and stay within the tariff range prevailing in the region.

A comparison of the 2002 MFN rates in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei and the Philippines, showed that the latter two had the lowest rates at 2.6 percent and 4.7 percent, respectively.

Vietnam had the highest average MFN rate at 16.4 percent, followed by Thailand at 16.1 percent, and China at 12 percent.

For agricultural products, the Philippines has the third lowest average MFN rate at 8 percent after Brunei's duty-free scheme and Malaysia's 2.1 percent.

Among the seven countries, Thailand and Vietnam impose the highest MFN rates for agricultural goods at 29 percent and 23.9 percent, respectively.

For non-agricultural products, the country had the second-lowest average rate at 4.3 percent. Brunei charges only 3 percent.

Again, Vietnam and Thailand charged the highest at 15.3 percent and 14.2 percent for non-agricultural products from outside Asean.

Also, the source said the Department of Finance would raise the matter at the CTRM after the DOF proposed raising the rates on all tariff lines by up to 2 percent.

Before taking the finance portfolio last February, former CTRM chair and now Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima had ordered a comprehensive review on tariffs as the current tariff program winds up.

Medical equipment and technology highlighted in fair

Nursing student Jeng Apacible from St. Bernard University tries out the obstetrics-fetal imaging equipment showcased at the Medical Equipment and Technology Fair held at the Genesis Trade Center.

"Technology is here to make our lives better!" noted Constantine Dimaculangan of MediTech Enterprises in his opening speech at the recently held Medical Equipment and Technology Fair entitled "Collaboration: Technological Advances in the Health Professions." Held at the Genesis Trade Center along Macapagal Road in Pasay City, the fair aimed to showcase existing and emerging technologies used by the health professions industry.

Noting the title of the fair, Dimaculangan emphasized that "collaboration really is the key towards excellent patient care." He said, "The human factor in the form of doctors, nurses and other health professionals must work hand in hand with the latest technology and equipment available so they can deliver the best care for their patients. Through this fair, we want them to be acquainted with and hopefully to start using some of the newest pieces of equipment that are conveniently available through MediTech Enterprises."

Dimaculangan is president and CEO of the fifteen year old MediTech Enterprises, a company involved in the import and distribution of medical-related equipment. Starting out with only the import of diagnostic equipment for laboratory procedures such as blood counters and blood chemistry analyzers, his company has grown to include the distribution of large-scale imaging equipment such as the Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanner, the world's most useful imaging procedure for the early diagnosis of caner.

In attendance were different officials of private and public hospitals and universities. Special guests for the day were the Joans of Arc Nursing Students Association from St. Bernard University in Sampaloc, Manila. This group of students was personally toured around the fair by Corpuz himself.

"We have an obligation to the Filipino youth. We have to educate them with a world-class education and train them in the use of medical equipment utilized in hospitals all over the world. It is imperative that we produce globally competent health professionals that are at par with or exceed worldwide standards," said Corpuz.

For previous chapters & clues, log on to www.inquestor.com
To answer the question in Chapter 9, text INQ Q<question #> <answer> (Ex: INQ Q1 E) to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers. Maximum of 3 text answers per question. Send in your answers by April 16 to qualify for the preliminary draw on April 18
TO JOIN, REGISTER NOW FOR FREE! Text INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender> (Ex: INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz*1234 Ortigas Ave Pasig*34*M) Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers
This is an INQuest Adventure game clue

The ENRIQUE ZOBEL LECTURE 2005
featuring DAVID OSBORNE
THE PRICE *of* GOVERNMENT
GETTING THE RESULTS WE NEED IN AN AGE OF PERMANENT FISCAL CRISIS
APRIL 21, 2005 • 9AM - 12PM • GRAND BALLROOM, INTERCONTINENTAL MANILA
Presented By: SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
Organized By: E. ZOBEL FOUNDATION, INC.
Reactors: REP. GILBERT TEODORO, MAYOR JEJOMAR BINAY, MR. GUILLERMO LUZ, SEC. EMILIA BONCODIN, ATTY. RICARDO PUNO JR.
Sponsors:
AYALA CORPORATION • PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER • PHILIPPINE AIRLINES • SM PRIME HOLDINGS
GOODWILL BOOKSTORE • BUSINESSWORLD • INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.
THE COCA- COLA EXPORT CORPORATION • PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT & GAMING CORPORATION
PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE • ANDRES SORIANO FOUNDATION
PILIPINAS SHELL FOUNDATION • INTERCONTINENTAL MANILA
For particulars, contact: E. ZOBEL FOUNDATION, INC.
11/F AYALA LIFE -FGU CENTER BUILDING ACACIA AVE., COR. ZAPOTE RD.
MADRIGAL BUSINESS PARK, ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
TELEPHONE NO. 807-5013 TELEFAX NO. 807-5019 EMAIL ADDRESS: ezf_ph@hotmail.com

Group claims wood shortage hurting furniture business

A GROUP of furniture makers has called on the government to clarify the rules on logging, claiming that "the worsening shortage" of wood and timber products is threatening the furniture trade.

Nick de Lange, chair of the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP), said in a statement that the shortage was taking its toll on the nation's 15,000 furniture makers who serve both the domestic and international markets.

De Lange said the furniture makers first felt the crunch when the government "stopped the wood supply chain" and prolonged the total log ban.

Despite the lifting of the ban, the scarcity of wood continued, he said. Prices of wood supplies increased while the inventories of furniture firms were quickly depleted.

"The industry has begun losing market opportunities," De Lange said.

CFIP estimates the total annual wood requirements of the local furniture industry at 364,000 cubic meters.

De Lange said wood furniture made up half of total furniture exports, with the other half composed of those made of secondary forest products like buri, rattan and bamboo, as well as plastic, metal and iron.

According to the CFIP, export earnings from furniture reached about $300 million in 2004.

The industry employs around 1.8 million workers.

"We call on government to undertake all necessary measures to ease the strain on the furniture industry," said De Lange.

He added that the government should immediately allow timber harvests from private plantations and finish the compliance checks on holders of logging-related permits.

The official also said that private plantations should be allowed to harvest timber since the properties were not part of forest lands.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources may then monitor the plantations for strict compliance.

De Lange said that the four-month total ban should have been enough for the DENR "to weed out and punish violators and let law-abiding wood suppliers get on with their business."

"We urge government to adopt a comprehensive policy of sustainable forest management that would include crystal-clear rules on inclusions and exclusions so that industries like ours would be able to obtain much-needed material for our products," he said.

"Right now, the situation is very vague," he added. "The government has no clear policy or clear rules which law-abiding citizens may follow."

Last month, Trade Secretary Juan B. Santos said the Export Development Council—a think tank composed of representatives from government agencies and business groups—was pushing for the exclusion of forest products used in making furniture.

Santos, who is also chair of the EDC, supported Malacañang's campaign on the total log ban in protected forests and selective logging in production forests and tree plantations.

"However, the suspension of logging or cutting permits of legitimate enterprises should be immediately lifted to avoid further disruption in the supply chain for furniture manufacturing," he said.

Santos said the EDC proposed to exclude minor forest products such as rattan, vines, bark and fibers from the coverage of the ban, as the harvesting of these products would not endanger the forest cover.

He added that the group was also pushing for the lowering of tariff on imported wood as a means of helping furniture manufacturers and exporters cope with the loss of local sources of raw materials.

Ronnel W. Domingo

New, refurbished airports to boost Philippine tourism

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism is refurbishing existing airports and facilitating the construction of new ones to boost domestic travel and encourage investments in the regions.

Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano said the DOT and the Department of Transportation and Communications had embarked on a program that involved the upgrading of the country's airports to serve as gateways to major tourism destinations.

"The enhanced efforts of the DOT and the DOTC to attract more local and foreign tourists would ultimately translate to national economic growth, as more tourists mean more jobs and livelihood opportunities for all," Durano said.

The development of airport terminals and facilities in the northern part of the country would make travel to these regions easier, he added.

The completion of work on the runway and terminal facilities at the Loakan and Bagabag airports and the introduction of regular flights to the region would give tourists and potential investors bound for the Cordillera region a chance to visit Baguio City, the Banaue Rice Terraces, and the heritage sites in Banaue, Hungduan, Kiangan and Mayoyao.

Travel and economic development in the provinces of Abra, Benguet, La Union, Ilocos, and Pangasinan would likewise be stimulated with the upgrading of the Laoag International Airport to full international standards, the extension of the Vigan Airport runway, and the opening of a new airport in San Fernando.

The major expansion of the passenger terminal at the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) to accommodate 1.5 million passengers over the next five years could also attract low-cost airlines carrying tourists and businessmen to sites in Clark in Pampanga.

The DMIA terminal currently serves an average of 800,000 passengers a year.

To cope with the increasing tourist traffic in Palawan, Durano said plans are underway to upgrade the Palawan International Airport to meet international standards.

The DOTC has also programmed the improvement of the existing Busuanga Airport and the construction of the El Nido Airport to serve as links to the Northern Palawan destinations.

According to Durano, other airports are likewise scheduled for construction and upgrading.

These include the Regional International Airport in Daraga City in Albay; the Caticlan Airport in Aklan; the new Iloilo Airport; the Silay Airport in Bacolod; the Panglao and Tagbilaran Airports in Bohol; the Daniel Z. Romualdez (DZR) Airport in Tacloban City; the new Zamboanga International Airport; the Dipolog Airport; the Pagadian Airport, and Baloi Airport in Iligan.

To link economic centers and key growth areas, the development of regional airports—the Laguindingan International Standard Airport, the Cotabato Airport, the Siargao Airport, the Butuan Airport, and the Sanga-Sanga Airport in the ARMM—will also be pursued.

Napocor gets DOF nod to float ₱5B in bonds

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance has given its blessing to the plan of the National Power Corp. to borrow on its own by floating P5 billion worth of peso-denominated bonds this month.

The proceeds of the bond float, which will be guaranteed by the national government, will be used to cover operating expenses of the debt-ridden Napocor.

The bonds will have tenors of five and seven years.

The national government, through the DOF, had been borrowing in behalf of the state-owned power firm, as the credit market was seen charging higher interest rates if Napocor borrowed on its own.

But Finance Undersecretary Nieves Osorio, who is in charge of monitoring the finances of state-owned companies, said the market has begun to respond favorably to Napocor's borrowing plans.

She said the successful sale last year of the Masinloc coal-fired power plant, one of the major assets of Napocor, improved the power firm's credit standing.

The plant was sold for $516.7 million to YNN Pacific Consortium Inc.

Aside from Masinloc, other smaller Napocor assets that were sold last year included the Talomo hydroelectric power plant for $1.4 million; Agusan power plant for $1.5 million; Barit power plant for $480,000; Cawayan power plant for $410,410; and the Loboc power plant for $1.42 million.

"The reading of Napocor by the market has improved," Osorio said in an interview with reporters.

She said the DOF would not hamper Napocor's plan to borrow on its own since the government already got a favorable response from the market when the borrowing plan was made.

She said some firms had already expressed willingness to lend.

Osorio said that as a principle, the government prefers that Napocor and other state-owned firms borrow on their own.

The government would just borrow in their behalf if the borrowing cost would be too high.

"Our preference is for them to raise their own needs," she said, explaining that it was a good way of instilling fiscal discipline among state-owned companies.

Napocor accounts for roughly 70 percent of the combined P103-billion deficit of GOCCs monitored by the DOF.

FuturePerfect is now offering the

CTWE

Certificate in Teaching Workplace English (75 hours)

This certificate provides a theoretical and practical framework for those wanting to become English language communication trainers in the BPO workplace.

Classes start on Saturday, April 16, 2005, 9:00am to 4:30pm. Training will be conducted every Saturday from April 16.

This program will run for 10 Saturdays from mid-April to July.

For inquiries contact:
Tel (02)842-6006/(02)850-4563
Fax (02)807-9010
Mobile 0915-4073184
Email futureperfect@aig.com

Or you may visit us:
8/F Philam Life IT Building
Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park
Alabang, Muntinlupa City

FuturePerfect
BUSINESS ENGLISH SPECIALISTS

SEC may allow management unit to take over CAP

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

A SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) committee checking out the financial condition of College Assurance Plan Phils. (CAP) has recommended that a management unit take over the troubled pre-need firm, according to industry sources.

SEC chair Fe Barin also warned CAP not to withdraw from its trust fund, which had gone down to around P4.7 billion from P8.5 billion last year to pay off liabilities to planholders.

The figures were based on SEC's computations.

Barin said the Commission en banc would decide on the recommendations of the oversight committee on CAP this week.

"It all depends on how the Commission will decide, whether to approve it as a terminal report or continue with the (CAP) oversight committee," Barin replied when asked whether CAP would be placed under receivership.

The three-man oversight committee—composed of SEC assistant directors—was formed more than two months ago to check on CAP's financial health.

CAP's license to sell education plans was suspended last year as it struggled to find new capital to address its trust fund deficit.

Barin said that CAP would have to pay off roughly P2.5 billion worth of tuition fee payments per school year, or at least P1.2 billion for the coming semester.

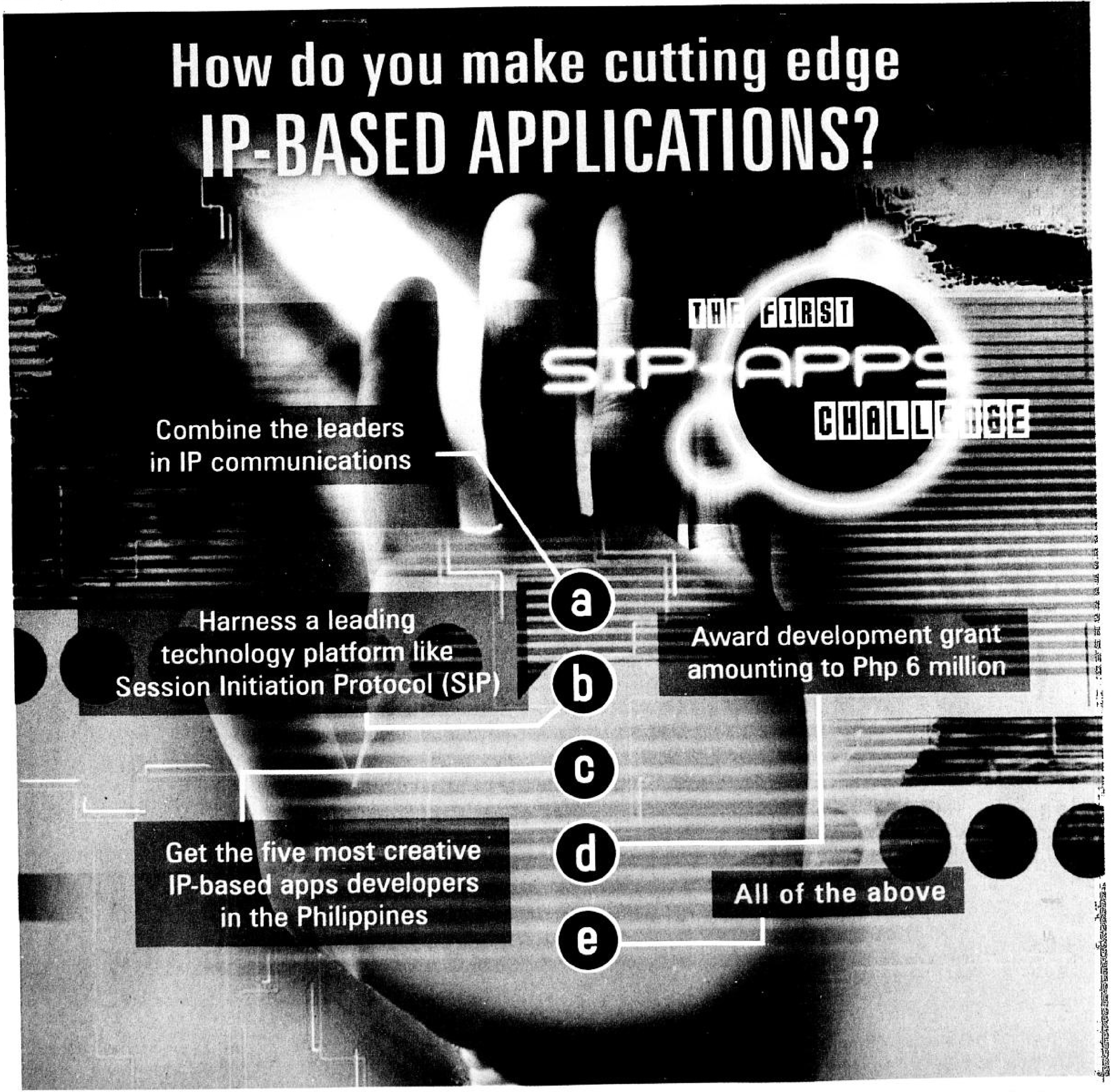
With the current level of the trust fund at P4.7 billion, the fund is expected no more than two years.

The figure does not include existing plans whose holders continue to pay in installments, contributing to the fund.

The SEC has since ordered CAP to replenish its trust fund.

The company's trust fund is a pool of assets that guarantees maturing plans will be paid.

CAP's trust fund stood at P8.5 billion last year, with real estate investments worth P2.7 billion, shares of stock at P2.3 billion and MRT bonds worth roughly P3 billion.


How do you make cutting edge
IP-BASED APPLICATIONS?
THE FIRST
SIP-APPS
CHALLENGE
Combine the leaders in IP communications
a
Harness a leading technology platform like Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)
b
Award development grant amounting to Php 6 million
c
Get the five most creative IP-based apps developers in the Philippines
d
All of the above
e

If you answered "e," then join the launch of the 1st SIP Applications Challenge in the Philippines on April 19, 2005 at the Mandarin Hotel and be part of the search for the next cutting-edge IP-based application. Only those who attend have the chance to make the cut. So if you have what it takes, register now. For inquiries log on to http://www.smart.com.ph or email sipapps@smart.com.ph.

PLDT SMART ePLDT WOLFPAC WolfPac Mobile, Inc NOKIA CONNECTING PEOPLE

RP mobile gambling at crossroads

By Leo Magno and Erwin Oliva

WIN
44
Bingo

ON WEDNESDAY, the National Telecommunications Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing on the request of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) to operate a gambling service via cellular phones. This marks a turning point in the industry when the country's policymakers, the Catholic Church and technology leaders are debating the introduction of a controversial service already being offered in the physical world and can easily be ported onto the Internet and cellular phones.

Pagcor is asking the NTC to grant them a four-digit code or a special access number for an SMS-based betting and gambling service, according to NTC Commissioner Ronald Solis. The access codes will be used for Pagcor-approved games of chance. The timing of Pagcor's request is crucial since hearings on gambling on the Internet and mobile phones are now being held, and the Church is reiterating its disapproval of gambling in general. Solis said representatives from the Church will be on hand Wednesday to discuss Pagcor's request.

Pagcor is the government-owned and controlled corporation established to regulate all games of chance in the Philippines. It was created in 1976 to oversee the operation of gaming casinos, generate funds for the government and curb illegal gambling. Meanwhile, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) is the principal government agency for raising funds for health programs by conducting charity sweepstakes, races and lotteries.

Pagcor has in the past tried to offer online gambling. It has signed MOAs with technology providers to create an online casino and Internet sports betting service. Pagcor estimates the gaming market in the Philippines to be worth over P100 billion per year, and illegal gaming accounts for half of the country's gaming industry revenues.

Technology providers argue that such services can be operated more securely and could eradicate illegal gaming because bookies are taken out of the equation via the Internet or cellular phones. The question many in the technology industry are asking now is that, since legal and regulated games of chance operated by the PCSO and Pagcor are already existent, what makes it illegal to offer the same game through technology such as the Internet and cell phones? It then boils down to a matter of government policy, not a question of technology.

More than gambling per se, mobile games of chance are getting the attention of many sectors because of the revenues being raked in by such services. It may not be available in the Philippines yet, but in other parts of the world, especially Europe, gambling has invaded the mobile and the culture of consumers.

Studies show that tapering revenue growth and the lack of multimedia and interactive content on the cell phone are leading content developers and operators toward new services like mobile gambling. Analysts even say that mobile gambling could be the "killer app" the cellular industry has been searching for.

Analytical research firm Juniper Reports noted in a February 2005 white paper that the gambling industry is made up of three distinct sectors: casino-style gambling, lotteries and sports betting. Of the three, Juniper believes that lotteries and sports betting would become successful when translated into mobile gambling.

Juniper believes that "regulatory restrictions notwithstanding, the potential for mobile gambling revenues is substantial." The company predicts that mobile gambling will generate more than $19.3 billion in revenues in 2009, or nearly a third of all mobile entertainment revenues. Of this amount, 40 percent or about $7.9 billion will come from mobile lotteries, followed by mobile betting with 36 percent ($6.9 billion) and casinos at 24 percent ($4.6 billion). Juniper predicts the number of people placing bets via the mobile phone will increase from its current level of around 4.6 million to more than 100 million by 2009.

However, two of the world's biggest markets are stunting Juniper's predictions for mobile gambling growth. Mobile gambling in the United States and China is still prohibited. Juniper, however, believes that the ubiquity of the mobile phone will open up these markets rapidly, and that "the increasing tolerance of sports betting should see the percentages using these services rise markedly in the medium term." The research firm also predicts that the US will introduce some form of mobile lottery by the second half of 2006.

Such lotteries, similar to the ones being operated by the PCSO, can easily be ported to the mobile phone. This has been proven by European developers, operators and national lottery agencies that are currently enjoying success from this new form of mobile service.

The $16.6-billion European Internet and mobile betting market will grow by 9.6 percent over the next two years, while traditional gambling will decline by 3.5 percent, according to West Bromwich, England-based Global Betting & Gaming Consultants.

Svenska Spel, the gaming company owned and run by the Swedish government, has in only eight years since its inception managed to offer 32 games to date, 20 of which are playable either on the Internet or mobile phones. In comparison, the PCSO, created in 1934, has only one sweepstakes service and six flavors of lotto. None of PCSO's games are offered on the mobile phone.

Two weeks ago, Svenska Spel offered on the mobile phone their scratch card games Triss and Tria, based on previously existing physical scratch cards. Svenska Spel has also made mobile and online counterparts of its Lotto, Keno and Bingo games. In 2003, Svenska Spel earned 18.8 billion Swedish kronors (about $2.65 billion).

"Most people on a train just read, but now they can use their mobile phones and play a scratch card game," said David Blomquist, function manager of Svenska Spel. "They can play lotto online and today it's secure. No one below 18 can play and no one can spend more than 1,000 kronors ($140) per day."

Sweden, however, is a totally different market from the Philippines. Blomquist said about 86 percent of all Swedish adults play a gambling-related game at least once a year, and 70 percent of them play Svenska Spel's games. Swedish people also spend about 2,250 kronor ($317) per year on gambling.

In the Philippines, sports betting has become a way of life for Filipinos—from cockfighting to horse racing and basketball. Betting on number combination games such as lotteries and basketball "ending" offered by illegal bookies is commonplace today.

Historically, lotteries have been in existence in the Philippines as early as 1833. Even national hero Dr. Jose Rizal won P6,200 in the draw of 1892, while in exile in Dapitan.

However, because of the negative religious view and the perceived social costs, gambling is subject to censure and regulation in many countries. Still, gambling is existent in one form or another in many countries. The US is known for its expensive physical casinos. In Japan, Pachinko is a national pastime with 45 million players or 41 percent of Japanese above the age of 15 playing the game. About 50 percent of Korean adults go to casinos. State-licensed gambling companies in Italy and Spain—seats of Catholicism—take in 5.78 billion euros ($7.48 billion) annually from lotteries and sports betting.

Although gambling has historically been run by the state, mobile gambling is different. It has to go through a private operator like an Internet service provider or through the cellular network, and this requires a learning curb from the user's end. It takes a different cultural setting for mobile gambling to develop, according to Svenska Spel's Blomquist.

"This cultural phenomenon of mobile gambling is acceptable to the (Swedish) people," he said. "The cultural mindset has to be there that this form of gambling is secure. Some countries may disagree, but in Sweden, this is entertainment. It's not something that's awful. This is something that's fun for our people."

The same is true in London, where people are betting online and via mobile that the election majority of the Labour party would be slashed to about 60 seats after British prime minister Tony Blair announced the May polls.

Such a culture is non-existent in the Philippines, where the level of cellular phone service usage is still largely concentrated on texting or downloading ring tones and icons.

With falling voice revenues and the need to offer compelling interactive services on advanced networks such as 3G, operators are hard-pressed to search for new services and revenue generators for the new networks they are rolling or will soon roll out.

The mobile gambling services of European companies such as Svenska Spel are contributing to the revenues of cellular operators such as Vodafone. Blomquist declined to state the revenue share between Svenska Spel and Vodafone, but in the Philippines the split between operator and content provider is typically 70-30 in favor of the operator.

With $19.3 billion in revenues estimated for mobile gambling by the year 2009, and with the NTC opening talks about regulated mobile gambling in the Philippines, will operators go the way of Europe soon?

Ferdinand dela Cruz, Globe Telecom wireless business head, was direct in answering the question.

"We will not engage in any form of gambling. That's a company policy; we don't want to be associated with gambling. There have been many proposals from the outside. We don't want to get the ire of the (Church) but we also don't want our brand associated with gambling. It is hard to control who is betting or who is qualified, especially if it's prepaid. So we would rather not. (Mobile gambling) is a big market. But we're not Vodafone. We're Globe," said dela Cruz.

Smart Communications made clear its position that it does not offer mobile gambling but is able to "transport" such services over its network.

"We're not engaged in gambling and we won't engage in it, although in the past people said that we were engaged in games of chance," said Mon Isberto, Smart head of public affairs. "Questions were raised about the propriety of these games so we've maintained the position that we're not in games of chance and not promoting games of chance."

Isberto added, however, that although there is opposition to such services, gambling is, at the same time, widespread in the Philippines.

"Is it correct for government to promote this (mobile gambling)? We will look for guidance from the government. We're basically service providers. We don't run the services. But if this will damage our image, then it's not worth engaging in. So it's important for government to clarify its position. At the same time, we have to weigh public opinion before we engage in such activities."

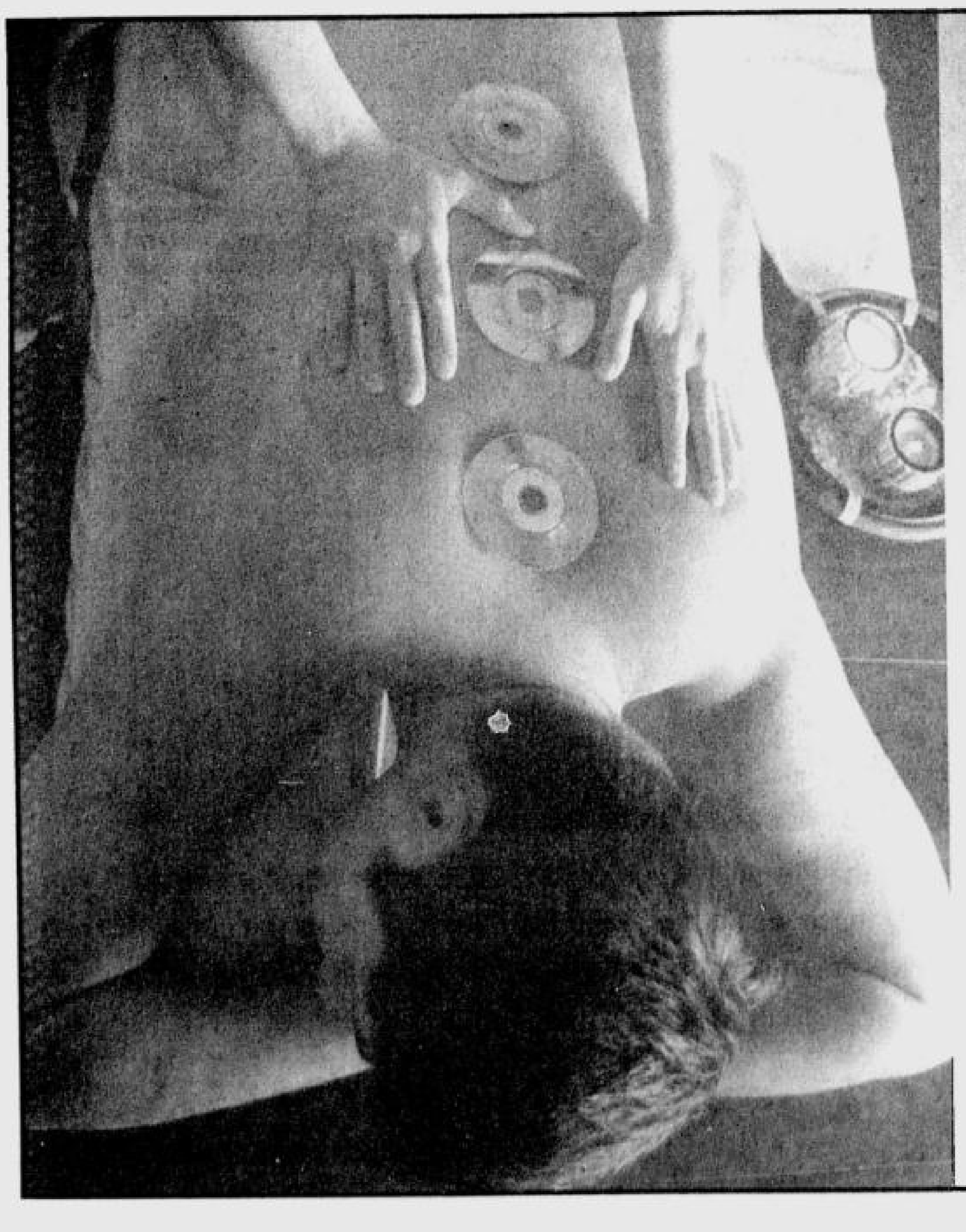
Isberto added that government rules on gambling become ambiguous when taken to the mobile space.

"Under existing laws, Pagcor and PCSO are allowed to engage in gambling. So can they now use mobile phones as access devices? Mobile phone firms should not be held culpable for that as landlines are not held liable for lotto betting since the connection of the lotto betting stations are using leased lines."

It will be interesting to watch the NTC, Pagcor and the PCSO debate the merits of having their regulated games made available on the mobile phone. The NTC's Solis said Wednesday's public hearing on Pagcor's request for an access code for a mobile gambling service will allow the public to air their concerns about gambling via mobile phones. Representatives from the Catholic Church will also reportedly be on hand.

Solis said they want Pagcor to explain how it intends to prevent minors with cell phones from engaging in gambling, and what kind of measures they are taking to ensure this would not happen.

However, the Philippine cellular phone industry has proven to be an influential oligopoly, and it will not be the first time for the NTC to blink when stared at by Smart and Globe.



Remove toxins in your PC by deleting unlicensed software.

DETOX YOUR PC to keep your business healthy.

Experience the full power of software through SAM! Attend a ***FREE BSA seminar*** on **"Rx: Software Asset Management (SAM) for a Healthy & Secure Business"** on April 20, 2005, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Ballroom I of Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City. Speaker will be Jimmy Wu, Partner, Enterprise Risk Services, Deloitte & Touche. For details, call 891-3396 or 891-3485 or send an e-mail to cecil.castigador@perceptions-inc.com.

Endorsed by

BSA
BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE

Commission on Information and Communications Technology

Report companies using pirated software. Call the BSA anti-piracy hotline at 819-5897 (Metro Manila) or 1-800-1-888-8787 (outside Metro Manila). Reward: Up to P1,000,000*

*Terms & conditions apply

Buffett, Greenberg head for prosecutors' hotseat

NEW YORK—Warren Buffett will be in the hotseat on Monday as state and federal investigators interview him, hoping the much lionized billionaire might help them go after a smaller name but bigger fish—American International Group Inc.'s once powerful chairman, Maurice "Hank" Greenberg.

Buffett will meet with New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, officials from the justice department and the Securities and Exchange Commission, who are reviewing perhaps 20 suspect transactions at AIG, the giant insurer. Greenberg was ordered to testify on Tuesday.

The unusual forum unites two longtime titans of corporate America, often rivals but sometimes allies, to recount activity dating back more than four years, and which investigators now appear to consider improper.

But Greenberg is seen as a target of the investigations, and Buffett is not. Investigators want to pinpoint Greenberg's involvement in initiating questionable transactions, though the case remains "wide open" and criminal charges might never be filed, a person familiar with the matter said.

"Greenberg is under a cloud," said George Newhouse, a white-collar criminal defense specialist at the Los Angeles law firm Thelen Reid & Priest LLP. "Whether he invokes his Fifth Amendment privileges (against self-incrimination) has to be a serious possibility, considering that he at this early stage appears to be a target."

In contrast, he said Buffett's being interviewed appears to be "a good sign for him. It indicates that Buffett's legal counsel feels comfortable with providing information to the government in that fashion ... Of course, someone of Buffett's stature probably wouldn't want to invoke a right to silence."

Since New York-based AIG on Feb. 14 said it got subpoenas from Spitzer and the SEC, its shares have fallen 29 percent, while Class "A" shares of Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. are down just 5 percent. Berkshire is based in Omaha, Nebraska.

Investigators have zeroed in on a 2000 transaction between Berkshire's General Re unit and AIG to enhance the latter's financial strength. AIG has admitted the transaction wasn't accounted for properly. It also helped cost Greenberg his job.

It's unknown what Buffett knew about other General Re transactions that authorities are examining.

Berkshire, meanwhile, has engaged in some damage control, saying on March 29 that Buffett was not briefed on the structure or any improper purpose of the AIG transaction.

Friday's Wall Street Journal, citing people familiar with the matter, said Buffett directed his lawyers several months ago to turn over documents describing the suspect transaction, to help win leniency for Berkshire in an unrelated case. *Reuters*

Oil shock raises concerns over slowing global growth

FRANKFURT—A global oil shock will deliver only a glancing blow to inflation and leave Group of Seven central bankers far more worried about slowing growth than higher prices, analysts said.

Top financial leaders warned last week of the dangers from crude oil costs, up 50 percent the past year and holding firmly above $50 a barrel the past month.

The International Monetary Fund said further gains would deliver a serious blow to global growth while European Central Bank president Jean-Claude Trichet said an oil shock is "very unwelcome."

The greater danger for slow-growing economies such as Japan and the euro zone could be recession and deflation.

"If it knocks your economy when you are weak, you are in a risky situation," said Adolf Rosenstock, senior economist at Nomura International. "Once a slowdown kicks in, you are back to the old deflationary scenario."

The bigger worry, analysts said, could be a growth slowdown, which in some economies could spill into or worsen deflation.

While deflation risks are not a widespread or primary concern among analysts, they remain a nagging issue that resurfaces.

The United States economy, growing around a 4 percent annual rate, could weather a slowdown easily. But for the 12-nation euro zone and Japan it is a different story.

Japan already is battling deflationary forces and attempting to recover from a decade of stagnation. A protracted oil shock could abort its recovery and worsen deflationary pressures.

The euro zone is in better shape, currently growing around 1.5 to 2 percent.

But recovery is shaky and vulnerable to slowing global demand since domestic consumption is lagging.

March data showed the manufacturing sector stagnating and business and consumer confidence slumping.

The ECB's forecast for growth in the 1.2-2 percent range this year assumes oil costs will average $44.70 a barrel in 2005.

But in the year to date, US light crude has averaged $50.12 a barrel and on Friday was trading at $54.55. *AP*

Computer Software Sale

Inventory/GL P11,999.99
- Sales, Purchase & Inventory
- Banking & General Ledger

Payroll P11,999.99
- All gov't monthly & annual reports
- BIR, SSS, PHIC, HDMF & 13th Mth.

Enrollment/GL P11,999.99
- Student Enrollment/Matriculation
- Grading and Tuition Payments
- Banking & General Ledger

With built-in Security/Access restriction.
Call or Text ASI 4 FREE Demo
Tel 413-5275 or 0918-924-9868

Wall St. awaits earnings news

NEW YORK—Although oil prices dropped sharply last week, Wall Street will be eyeing the first wave of corporate earnings reports to see whether climbing energy prices are sapping strength from corporate America.

While oil prices posted their biggest weekly loss since December, oil remains above $53 per barrel, and those prices could translate into higher transportation and energy costs for many companies, especially retailers and industrials.

In addition to eroding the bottom line, Wall Street fears those higher costs could be passed onto consumers. Should that happen, one of two things could result—either consumers spend less, curbing the economy, or those higher prices could trigger inflation.

After a month in which even uttering the word inflation in earshot of investors seemed to push stocks lower, that's the last thing Wall Street wants to see.

That's also why the markets rallied this past week as crude oil futures fell for five consecutive sessions, dropping from an intra-day record of $58.28 on Monday to settle Friday at $53.32.

For the week, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 0.55 percent, the Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 0.71 percent, and the Nasdaq composite index gained 0.73 percent.

Reading on economy

The government will give investors a reading on the economy this week, including the latest on the nation's trade deficit, retail sales strength and industrial production.

On Tuesday, the Department of Commerce is expected to report another increase in America's trade deficit.

Economists predict the deficit will have climbed to $59 billion in February, up slightly from $58.3 billion in January.

Retail sales will be in focus Wednesday. For March, the Commerce Department is expected to report a 0.7 percent increase in sales, up from a 0.5 percent hike in February. Without the surprisingly healthy automotive sector, retail sales were expected to rise 0.6 percent for March from a 0.4 percent increase in February.

On Friday, the Federal Reserve will report on the nation's industrial sector. Industrial production is expected to rise 0.3 percent, the same rate as reported for February.

Q1 reports

First-quarter earnings season begins in earnest this week, with a number of notable companies releasing their quarterly results and giving forecasts for current and future quarters.

General Electric Co. is considered a significant barometer for earnings, given the conglomerate's varied holdings in media, financing and manufacturing.

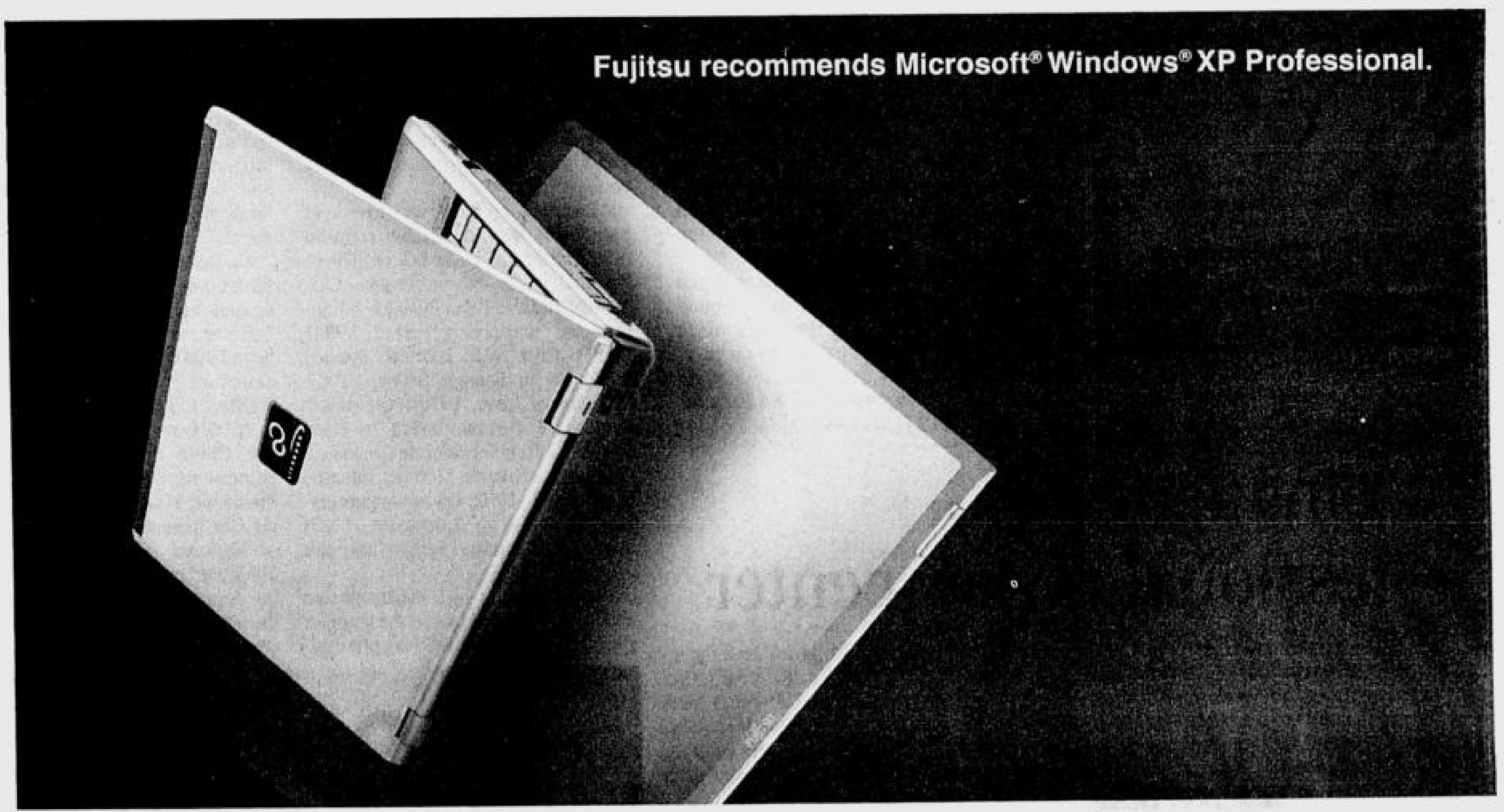
The Dow industrial is expected to earn 37 cents per share when it reports Friday morning, up from 32 cents per share in the first quarter a year ago. The stock has climbed 21 percent from its 52-week low of $29.55 on May 10, 2004, closing Friday at $35.74.

Fellow Dow industrial Citigroup Inc. has seen its stock fall sharply since early February, a victim of the stock market's distaste for the financial sector as interest rates rise and inflation becomes an issue.

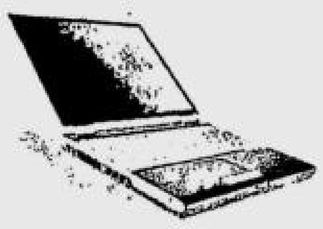
Citigroup has fallen 8.8 percent since closing at $49.78 on Feb. 8, finishing Friday at $45.40. The company is expected to post profits of $1.02 per share, up from 98 cents a year ago, when it reports earnings before Friday's session.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Federal Reserve will release the minutes from the Open Market Committee's March 22 meeting, at which it raised interest rates by a quarter percentage point to 2.75 percent and warned that inflation may become an issue. *AP*

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

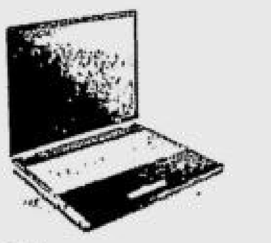


Wireless excellence with Fujitsu LifeBook.
Powered by Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology.

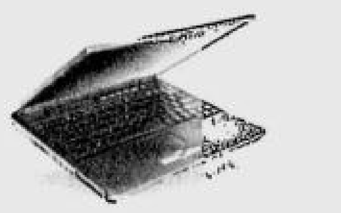


Ultra-Portable
LifeBook S6230
- Lightweight at 1.65 kg*
- Hot-swappable modular bay option

From P 99,000.00



Slim and Light
LifeBook S7010
- Second-generation mobile micro-architecture processors from Intel®
- One of the smallest 14" notebook footprints



Rich Multimedia Features
LifeBook S7011
- Fingerprint Recognition technology for secured computing
- Rich multimedia related features - brilliant SuperFine display
- Small 14" footprint, thin and light at less than 2 kg

* With weight saver option

Built-In Confidence

LIFEBOOK

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. (FPI)
Customer CareLine: +63 (2) 841-8488
Sales Hotline: +63 (2) 894-8557
Website: http://ph.fujitsu.com/fpi
Service Hoteline; +63 (2) 841-8400

Authorized Distributor: Quadtron Technologies, Inc. - 1606 The Taipan Place Condominium, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Tel: 9140324 to 27

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Aries Espinosa

Pana inducts 2005 board

THE YEAR 2004 was a transition period for the biggest and the most powerful allied association in the marketing industry, the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana). It was a breakthrough year in terms of multilateral efforts. Focused and adamant, the leadership paved the way for industry milestones after milestones.

Outgoing Pana president Raul Alvarez (PLDT) was clear about the Association's mission from the beginning. A staunch believer of "frequency", Raul opens each Pana general membership meeting with a review of his administration's thrust for 2004: Assume leadership and call the shots, live and breathe advocacy, and reinforce the association's relevance to members.

True to form, the Pana board slowly laid out the foundation from a veritable plan and went on to pile the building blocks. The year, though, was deemed too short and the changing of hands was inevitable.

Thus, the onset of 2005 played host to the induction of Pana's new officers and board of directors. Taking their cue from the outgoing board, the newly elected leaders were keen on "continuing building the blocks".

The event was fittingly graced by the third most powerful official in the land, Senate President Franklin Drilon, who presided over the induction ceremony.

Bien Fernando of Alaska and Ed Sunico of Unilever Philippines were sworn in as president and vice president, respectively. The new board also includes Gafar Lutian of Procter & Gamble Philippines, Roberto Banaag of Planters Bank (reelected), Francisco Cada of Zest-O, Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym (reelected), Tina Esguerra of Ayala Land (reelected), Sandra Puno of Nestle Philippines, Jesus Garcia of Philippine Airlines, Marie Angelyn Padilla of Sara Lee Philippines, and Benjamin Los Banos of STI.

The newly inducted Pana president, during her inaugural speech, declared that her administration shall continue working on the objectives set by the previous board, and added a new dimension to the approach: Evolution.

"Pana must continually evolve. An organization must evolve for it to survive," she said.

Sharp and clear-cut, the president's piece zeroed in on continuity, commitment and administrative strength.

THE EVENT was graced by Senate President Franklin Drilon, who acted as the inducting officer during the ceremony. The new Pana board of directors are (from top left) Benjamin Los Banos of STI, Jesus Garcia of Philippine Airlines, Roberto Banaag of Planters Bank, Francisco Cada of Zest-O, Gafar Lutian of Procter & Gamble Philippines, Tina Esguerra of Ayala Land, Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym, Bien Fernando of Alaska, Sandra Puno of Nestle Philippines, and Marie Angelyn Padilla of Sara Lee Philippines.

Ad Edge is launched

IMAGINE Unilever, Nestle and Procter & Gamble sharing their trade secrets. Think of the strategies that competing brands employ in their battle for market supremacy. Pack them all in one magazine and you get what is probably the most valuable tool for marketing practitioners and students alike.

The Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana) recently launched Ad Edge, a trade magazine about leading brands and the best brand management practices. A brainchild of the 2004 Pana board and its president Raul Alvarez, the receiving end initially was the members, as part of Pana's thrust of giving back the benefits due them.

After countless hours of meetings and brainstorming, the communication committee headed by Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym found an ally in Summit Publishing, the country's top wielder of glossy magazines.

"It was a labor of love from us," says Lisa Gokongwei-Cheng. "Our purpose was to create a publication that would showcase the top brand builders and present the various tools available to today's marketing professional."

Indeed, Ad Edge is bound to be a rich source of "real world" insights never before published.

For its maiden issue, the centerpiece carries no less than the superbrands Jollibee, Surf and Alaska. Their memorable success stories are lovingly printed for the readers to take inspiration from. But these are just actually a taste of the meatier things to come as you flip the pages.

Digging deeper into the current marketing milieu, Ad Edge features the winning strategies that challenged and eventually shook the playing field. Bayo, Bench, Cebu Pacific, and Penshoppe share the events that turned things around for them. Get to know the advertising devices used in order for them to break free from the status quo.

"Comprehensive" and "in-depth" were also the guiding principles of the working team. No relevant tool was left untouched, from the long-established to fast-emerging media. Readers will definitely feast on medium-specific learning from the top practitioners in the industry.

Overall, think of Ad Edge as a slice of rich chocolate cake smothered in whipped cream. You finish one and the whole lavish experience will make you want for more.

Ad Edge is now available at leading bookstores. For inquiries, call the Pana office at 894-0012 (13) or 894-0474.

AMA inaugurates professional review center

AMA Education System (Amaes), Asia's pioneer and largest network of universities and colleges, inaugurated last week the AMA Review Center located at the AMA Building, Panay Avenue, Quezon City. Envisioned to boost the performance of AMA graduates in professional board examinations, the AMA Review Center offers intensive review classes for AMA graduates in the following courses: medicine, nursing, accountancy, electronics communication engineering, maritime and education. The AMA Review Center boasts of online review sessions with very rich online learning resources on the various professional courses including sample board examinations. Aside from the online interactive review materials, the AMA Review Center offers online testing to allow for automatic assessment of the graduate's readiness to pass the board exam.

AZANZA

According to Dr. Patrick Alain Azanza, SVP for academic affairs of AMA, the review center is a big boost to AMA's continuous quest for academic excellence. The AMA Review Center would ensure that AMA students will not only pass but will even top the professional board examinations. Students who top the licensure examinations are given cash incentives as much as P100,000 aside from handsome rebates on their tuition. Like other AMA students, they are also provided with employment assistance to industry partners of AMA, which at present count numbers more than 6,000 employers worldwide.

Azanza further explained that the AMA Education System also reengineered its curriculum and included mechanisms that would strictly screen and provide academic interventions to students taking professional courses such as qualifying examinations, tutorial subjects, and mentoring system. Also, the academic affairs department introduced at least six units of built-in board review subjects on the final year of the students within the curriculum of all the professional courses offered by AMA. Upon graduation of AMA students they are provided professional review sessions by former board examiners and board topnotchers under discounted rates at the AMA Review Center.

The AMA Review Center is headed by Dr. Angel Manlapaz (DMD), who envisions the center in the near future as one of the top institutions providing services to board examinees and allowing them to practice their chosen professions by way of ensuring their passing the licensure examination. The review center is off to a good start after it produced AMA a third placer in the Electronics Communication Engineering (ECE) in the recent professional board examination.

WONDERBOY'S CHOICE

Wheel Gallery, the pioneering firm who put Filipinos on 22 and 24-inch chrome wheels, is pushing the bar of corporate sponsorship by jumping on the bandwagon of Team Tyson Sy, the country's premier race ace and our shot at having a Filipino driving at Formula One. Tyson and Wheel Gallery have a lot in common. Both are young, dominating, performance and quality driven and are making inroads in their respective fields of endeavor. 'Concept One is proud to be a support system of Tyson. We believe that he has the qualities of a world-class champion,' says Sammy Liuson, president of Wheel Gallery. Shown is Tyson (left) with Sammy shaking hands, formalizing Wheel Gallery's total commitment to Team Tyson. Wheel Gallery, also referred to as the 'Dub Shop', is the exclusive distributors of Nitto Tires, Concept One wheels and racing seats, MKW, Bazo, and Diamo.

Isabela governor Padaca leads Lyceum's 6 outstanding alumni

CELEBRATING its 53rd year of academic excellence and the 114th birth anniversary of its founder the late Dr. Jose P. Laurel, Lyceum of the Philippines recently honored six of its acknowledged topnotch alumni whose names are equated with excellence, prominence and integrity in their chosen fields of endeavor, and whose achievements have national and international significance.

Dr. Sotero Laurel, Lyceum of the Philippines chair, said "being sterling performers who are dedicated to public service, and whose way of life is excellence, they earned credit, prestige and honor for themselves, alma mater and country."

Their names resound with excellence because of their invaluable contributions to the milieu they belong. The recipients were: Maria Gracia Cielo "Grace" Padaca (BS in Business Administration, Accounting major, 1984); Danilo Cruz (AB Political Science, 1969; BS in Foreign Service, 1969; Bachelor of Laws, 1973); Constancia Posadas-De Guzman (PhD in Fiscal Studies, 2001); Salvador de Guzman Jr (Bachelor of Laws, 1954); Eduardo Manuel (AB, 1962, BS in Foreign Service, 1962, BS in Journalism, 1963) and Aurora Santiago Lagman (Bachelor of Laws, 1977).

Padaca's saga, which evokes pathos and admiration, motivates the younger generation and those who are physically challenged. Fueled by her strength of character and clarity of vision, the strong-willed lady displayed extraordinary courage in the 2004 polls when she ran and won as governor of Isabela against a political dynasty.

Usec. Danilo Cruz shines brilliantly in the local and international scene. He is a luminary in the diplomatic horizon, holding key posts at the Department of Labor and Employment, as Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs and Overseas Operations; Labor Attache at the Philippine Embassy in Madrid, Spain; Undersecretary for Workers' Protection and Welfare and for Returning Migrant Workers and Informal Sector, and currently as Undersecretary for Employment and Manpower Development.

Dr. De Guzman's exemplary accomplishments include chief trade development and industry specialist of the Department of Trade and Industry from 1994 to 1998; head executive assistant of the Department of Social Welfare and Development from 1998 to 2000; Director IV, Internal Audit Office, DSWD from 2001 to 2001; Appointments Secretary, Office of the President, 2001 to 2003; Undersecretary for Internal Control, Department of National Defense from 2003 to 2004; and currently as chair, Presidential Anti-Graft Commission, Office of the President, in which capacity she continues to serve with integrity, competence and high ethical standards.

Judge De Guzman Jr was bestowed the citation in recognition of his admirable service in the judiciary as Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Courts of San Pablo City, Sta. Cruz and Calamba, Laguna and Makati, from 1983 until his retirement in 1997.

US-based Manuel was recognized for his exemplary achievements as an elected councilman of Hercules City, California in 1991, eventually becoming mayor in 1992 and for his outstanding service to Filipino-American communities in the United States, propagating Filipino culture to mainstream America.

Blessed with brains and a captivating personality, Justice Santiago-Lagman served as lawyer in the Citizens Legal Assistance Unit, Department of Justice from 1979 to 1987; as government prosecutor for the Foundation for Judicial Excellence in 1993, as presiding judge of Branch 77 of the Malolos, Bulacan RTC from 1994 to 2004, for which she was recognized in February 2004 by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, eventually leading to her well-deserved appointment to the Court of Appeals in 2004.

Lyceum of the Philippines now accepts applications for enrolment for school year 2005 to 2006. Information on graduate, law and undergraduate programs being offered is available at 527-8251 or at www.lyceumphil.edu.ph.

53rd Lyceum Foundation Anniversary
Guest Speaker: Prof. Felipe B. Miranda
Research Director, PULSE Asia
March 4, 2005

THE AWARDEES, from left: Judge Salvador P. de Guzman Jr; Usec Danilo P. Cruz; Justice Aurora Santiago-Lagman; Maria Gracia Cielo M. Padaca; Dr. Constancia P. de Guzman, and Eduardo G. Manuel.

The Speechpower advantage

AS THE saying goes, language is the dress of thought. We impress people with how well we express our ideas. Under the auspices of its founder and president, Jose M. Morderno, Jr, Speechpower has recognized this reality and for over 30 years now has been cited by respectable local and international authorities in speech communication as the country's biggest, most credible, most professional, and most prestigious institution for communication training. It has also pioneered standards that have made it one-of-a-kind.

These are: Free sample lessons and course advising. This is conducted before beginning each term. This gives clients a good overview of its courses and guides them to a course/s that can best fit their needs;

Observation and participation. Clients are further encouraged to observe different classes during the opening sessions. This provides them a closer look at Speechpower course goals and methodologies;

Tested power. Speechpower is the only training institution that has been tested and proven effective in a masteral thesis in language training and development by a graduate student from De La Salle University. In addition, it has repeatedly passed the highest training standards of the human resources departments of prestigious business firms. While in the international scene, it lays claim to the singular achievement of hosting an international convention in communication, the only communication-training center ever entrusted with such honor by the World Communication Association;

Classified courses/participants. For any program to be effective, scientific classification and gradation of courses and course objectives are a must. Speechpower offers the widest selection of spirally graduated courses to meet the varying needs of its clientele. Needless to say, Speechpower does not mix high school students, college students and professionals in a class;

Professional trainers. The Speechpower faculty members are specialists in their own areas. Aside from their academic preparation and professional experiences, they receive intensive and special training in the Speechpower methodology. Speechpower does not leave its classes to proctors or assistants. They have personalized instruction and enjoyable learning;

Functional learning materials. Speechpower learning materials are based on years of research and discoveries. The learning activities are designed to be experiential, functional and highly practical.

So, this summer, experience the real Speechpower advantage. Speechpower has four offices: Cubao (911-0832 to 34); España (735-7256/735-7312/735-7262); Taft (521-3601/525-5310); and Biñan (049-5113450/0921-2519521).

US student visa seminar set April 16

THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN Educational Foundation (Paef) invites applicants to US colleges and universities to attend the upcoming US Student Visa Seminar on April 16, Saturday, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Paef office, 10th floor, Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. The seminar speaker will be the US Embassy's non-immigrant visa consul in charge of student visas. This is the third year Paef will host a public fora to help student applicants to the United States with their visa applications. The session is particularly relevant for students who are expecting to study in the States for the fall semester 2005 (August/September). The seminar is free, however, space is limited. Call Paef to reserve for the April 16 event at 812-0945 or 812-0919; look for Mila Tan or Con Valdecañas.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Aries Espinosa

Pana inducts 2005 board

THE YEAR 2004 was a transition period for the biggest and the most powerful allied association in the marketing industry, the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana). It was a breakthrough year in terms of multilateral efforts. Focused and adamant, the leadership paved the way for industry milestones after milestones.

Outgoing Pana president Raul Alvarez (PLDT) was clear about the Association's mission from the beginning. A staunch believer of "frequency". Raul opens each Pana general membership meeting with a review of his administration's thrust for 2004: Assume leadership and call the shots, live and breathe advocacy, and reinforce the association's relevance to members.

True to form, the Pana board slowly laid out the foundation from a veritable plan and went on to pile the building blocks. The year, though, was deemed too short and the changing of hands was inevitable.

Thus, the onset of 2005 played host to the induction of Pana's new officers and board of directors. Taking their cue from the outgoing board, the newly elected leaders were keen on "continuing building the blocks".

The event was fittingly graced by the third most powerful official in the land, Senate President Franklin Drilon, who presided over the induction ceremony.

Blen Fernando of Alaska and Ed Sunico of Unilever Philippines were sworn in as president and vice president, respectively. The new board also includes Gafar Lutian of Procter & Gamble Philippines, Roberto Banaag of Planters Bank (reelected), Francisco Cada of Zest-O, Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym (reelected), Tina Esguerra of Ayala Land (reelected), Sandra Puno of Nestle Philippines, Jesus Garcia of Philippine Airlines, Marie Angelyn Padilla of Sara Lee Philippines, and Benjamin Los Banos of STI.

The newly inducted Pana president, during her inaugural speech, declared that her administration shall continue working on the objectives set by the previous board, and added a new dimension to the approach: Evolution.

"Pana must continually evolve. An organization must evolve for it to survive," she said.

Sharp and clear-cut, the president's piece zeroed in on continuity, commitment and administrative strength.

THE EVENT was graced by Senate President Franklin Drilon, who acted as the inducting officer during the ceremony. The new Pana board of directors are (from top left) Benjamin Los Banos of STI, Jesus Garcia of Philippine Airlines, Roberto Banaag of Planters Bank, Francisco Cada of Zest-O, Gafar Lutian of Procter & Gamble Philippines, Tina Esguerra of Ayala Land, Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym, Blen Fernando of Alaska, Sandra Puno of Nestle Philippines, and Marie Angelyn Padilla of Sara Lee Philippines.

Ad Edge is launched

IMAGINE Unilever, Nestle and Procter & Gamble sharing their trade secrets. Think of the strategies that competing brands employ in their battle for market supremacy. Pack them all in one magazine and you get what is probably the most valuable tool for marketing practitioners and students alike.

The Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana) recently launched Ad Edge, a trade magazine about leading brands and the best brand management practices. A brainchild of the 2004 Pana board and its president Raul Alvarez, the receiving end initially was the members, as part of Pana's thrust of giving back the benefits due them.

After countless hours of meetings and brainstorming, the communication committee headed by Mylene Dayrit of Gold's Gym found an ally in Summit Publishing, the country's top wielder of glossy magazines.

"It was a labor of love from us," says Lisa Gokongwei-Cheng. "Our purpose was to create a publication that would showcase the top brand builders and present the various tools available to today's marketing professional."

Indeed, Ad Edge is bound to be a rich source of "real world" insights never before published.

For its maiden issue, the centerpiece carries no less than the superbrands Jollibee, Surf and Alaska. Their memorable success stories are lovingly printed for the readers to take inspiration from. But these are just actually a taste of the meatier things to come as you flip the pages.

Digging deeper into the current marketing milieu, Ad Edge features the winning strategies that challenged and eventually shook the playing field. Bayo, Bench, Cebu Pacific, and Penshoppe share the events that turned things around for them. Get to know the advertising devices used in order for them to break free from the status quo.

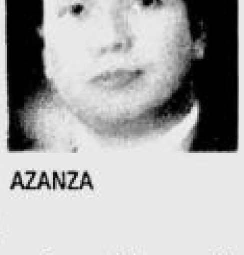
"Comprehensive" and "in-depth" were also the guiding principles of the working team. No relevant tool was left untouched, from the long-established to fast-emerging media. Readers will definitely feast on medium-specific learning from the top practitioners in the industry.

Overall, think of Ad Edge as a slice of rich chocolate cake smothered in whipped cream. You finish one and the whole lavish experience will make you want for more.

Ad Edge is now available at leading bookstores. For inquiries, call the Pana office at 894-0012 (13) or 894-0474.

AMA inaugurates professional review center

AMA Education System (Amaes), Asia's pioneer and largest network of universities and colleges, inaugurated last week the AMA Review Center located at the AMA Building, Panay Avenue, Quezon City. Envisioned to boost the performance of AMA graduates in professional board examinations, the AMA Review Center offers intensive review classes for AMA graduates in the following courses: medicine, nursing, accountancy, electronics communication engineering, maritime and education. The AMA Review Center boasts of online review sessions with very rich online learning resources on the various professional courses including sample board examinations. Aside from the online interactive review materials, the AMA Review Center offers online testing to allow for automatic assessment of the graduate's readiness to pass the board exam.



AZANZA

According to Dr. Patrick Alain Azanza, SVP for academic affairs of AMA, the review center is a big boost to AMA's continuous quest for academic excellence. The AMA Review Center would ensure that AMA students will not only pass but will even top the professional board examinations. Students who top the licensure examinations are given cash incentives as much as P100,000 aside from handsome rebates on their tuition. Like other AMA students, they are also provided with employment assistance to industry partners of AMA, which at present count numbers more than 6,000 employers worldwide.

Azanza further explained that the AMA Education System also reengineered its curriculum and included mechanisms that would strictly screen and provide academic interventions to students taking professional courses such as qualifying examinations, tutorial subjects, and mentoring system. Also, the academic affairs department introduced at least six units of built-in board review subjects on the final year of the students within the curriculum of all the professional courses offered by AMA. Upon graduation of AMA students they are provided professional review sessions by former board examiners and board topnotchers under discounted rates at the AMA Review Center.

The AMA Review Center is headed by Dr. Angel Manlapaz (DMD), who envisions the center in the near future as one of the top institutions providing services to board examinees and allowing them to practice their chosen professions by way of ensuring their passing the licensure examination. The review center is off to a good start after it produced AMA a third placer in the Electronics Communication Engineering (ECE) in the recent professional board examination.

WONDERBOY'S CHOICE

Wheel Gallery, the pioneering firm who put Filipinos on 22 and 24-inch chrome wheels, is pushing the bar of corporate sponsorship by jumping on the bandwagon of Team Tyson Sy, the country's premier race ace and our shot at having a Filipino driving at Formula One. Tyson and Wheel Gallery have a lot in common. Both are young, dominating, performance and quality driven and are making inroads in their respective fields of endeavor. 'Concept One is proud to be a support system of Tyson. We believe that he has the qualities of a world-class champion,' says Sammy Liuson, president of Wheel Gallery. Shown is Tyson (left) with Sammy shaking hands, formalizing Wheel Gallery's total commitment to Team Tyson. Wheel Gallery, also referred to as the 'Dub Shop', is the exclusive distributors of Nitto Tires, Concept One wheels and racing seats, MKW, Bazo, and Diamo.

Isabela governor Padaca leads Lyceum's 6 outstanding alumni

CELEBRATING its 53rd year of academic excellence and the 114th birth anniversary of its founder the late Dr. Jose P. Laurel, Lyceum of the Philippines recently honored six of its acknowledged topnotch alumni whose names are equated with excellence, prominence and integrity in their chosen fields of endeavor, and whose achievements have national and international significance.

Dr. Sotero Laurel, Lyceum of the Philippines chair, said "being sterling performers who are dedicated to public service, and whose way of life is excellence, they earned credit, prestige and honor for themselves, alma mater and country."

Their names resound with excellence because of their invaluable contributions to the milieu they belong. The recipients were: Maria Gracia Cielo "Grace" Padaca (BS in Business Administration, Accounting major, 1984); Danilo Cruz (AB Political Science, 1969; BS in Foreign Service, 1969; Bachelor of Laws, 1973); Constancia Posadas-De Guzman (PhD in Fiscal Studies, 2001); Salvador de Guzman Jr (Bachelor of Laws, 1954); Eduardo Manuel (AB, 1962, BS in Foreign Service, 1962, BS in Journalism, 1963) and Aurora Santiago Lagman (Bachelor of Laws, 1977).

Padaca's saga, which evokes pathos and admiration, motivates the younger generation and those who are physically challenged. Fueled by her strength of character and clarity of vision, the strong-willed lady displayed extraordinary courage in the 2004 polls when she ran and won as governor of Isabela against a political dynasty.

Usec. Danilo Cruz shines brilliantly in the local and international scene. He is a luminary in the diplomatic horizon, holding key posts at the Department of Labor and Employment, as Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs and Overseas Operations; Labor Attache at the Philippine Embassy in Madrid, Spain; Undersecretary for Workers' Protection and Welfare and for Returning Migrant Workers and Informal Sector, and currently as Undersecretary for Employment and Manpower Development.

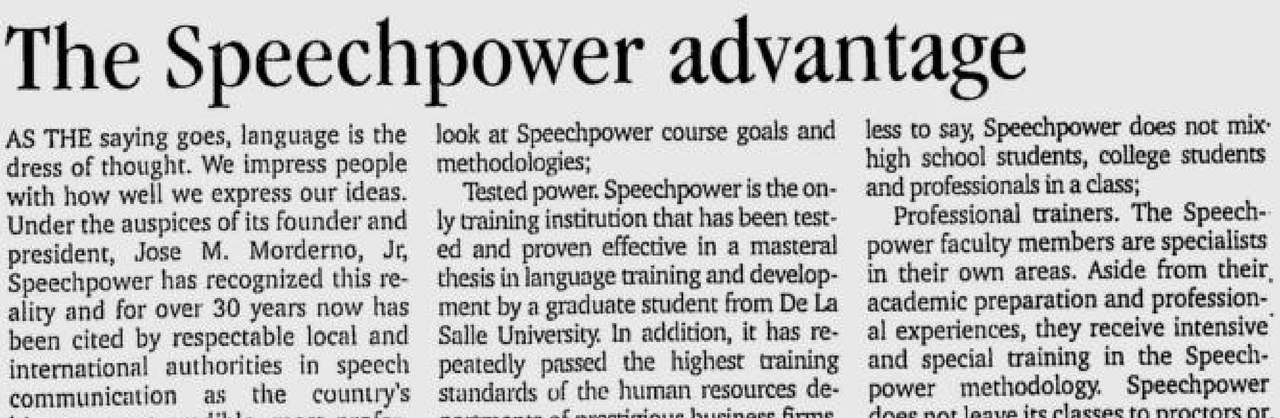
Dr. De Guzman's exemplary accomplishments include chief trade development and industry specialist of the Department of Trade and Industry from 1994 to 1998; head executive assistant of the Department of Social Welfare and Development from 1998 to 2000; Director IV, Internal Audit Office, DSWD from 2001 to 2001; Appointments Secretary, Office of the President, 2001 to 2003; Undersecretary for Internal Control, Department of National Defense from 2003 to 2004; and currently as chair, Presidential Anti-Graft Commission, Office of the President, in which capacity she continues to serve with integrity, competence and high ethical standards.

Judge De Guzman Jr was bestowed the citation in recognition of his admirable service in the judiciary as Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Courts of San Pablo City, Sta. Cruz and Calamba, Laguna and Makati, from 1983 until his retirement in 1997.

US-based Manuel was recognized for his exemplary achievements as an elected councilman of Hercules City, California in 1991, eventually becoming mayor in 1992 and for his outstanding service to Filipino-American communities in the United States, propagating Filipino culture to mainstream America.

Blessed with brains and a captivating personality, Justice Santiago-Lagman served as lawyer in the Citizens Legal Assistance Unit, Department of Justice from 1979 to 1987; as government prosecutor for the Foundation for Judicial Excellence in 1993, as presiding judge of Branch 77 of the Malolos, Bulacan RTC from 1994 to 2004, for which she was recognized in February 2004 by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, eventually leading to her well-deserved appointment to the Court of Appeals in 2004.

Lyceum of the Philippines now accepts applications for enrolment for school year 2005 to 2006. Information on graduate, law and undergraduate programs being offered is available at 527-8251 or at www.lyceumphil.edu.ph.



Lyceum Foundation Anniversary
Guest Speaker: Prof. Felipe B. Miranda
Research Director, PULSE
March 4, 2005

THE AWARDEES, from left: Judge Salvador P. de Guzman Jr; Usec Danilo P. Cruz; Justice Aurora Santiago-Lagman; Maria Gracia Cielo M. Padaca; Dr. Constancia P. de Guzman, and Eduardo G. Manuel.

The Speechpower advantage

AS THE saying goes, language is the dress of thought. We impress people with how well we express our ideas. Under the auspices of its founder and president, Jose M. Morderno, Jr, Speechpower has recognized this reality and for over 30 years now has been cited by respectable local and international authorities in speech communication as the country's biggest, most credible, most professional, and most prestigious institution for communication training. It has also pioneered standards that have made it one-of-a-kind.

These are: Free sample lessons and course advising. This is conducted before beginning each term. This gives clients a good overview of its courses and guides them to a course/s that can best fit their needs;

Observation and participation. Clients are further encouraged to observe different classes during the opening sessions. This provides them a closer look at Speechpower course goals and methodologies;

Tested power. Speechpower is the only training institution that has been tested and proven effective in a masteral thesis in language training and development by a graduate student from De La Salle University. In addition, it has repeatedly passed the highest training standards of the human resources departments of prestigious business firms. While in the international scene, it lays claim to the singular achievement of hosting an international convention in communication, the only communication-training center ever entrusted with such honor by the World Communication Association;

Classified courses/participants. For any program to be effective, scientific classification and gradation of courses and course objectives are a must. Speechpower offers the widest selection of spirally graduated courses to meet the varying needs of its clientele. Needless to say, Speechpower does not mix high school students, college students and professionals in a class;

Professional trainers. The Speechpower faculty members are specialists in their own areas. Aside from their academic preparation and professional experiences, they receive intensive and special training in the Speechpower methodology. Speechpower does not leave its classes to proctors or assistants. They have personalized instruction and enjoyable learning;

Functional learning materials. Speechpower learning materials are based on years of research and discoveries. The learning activities are designed to be experiential, functional and highly practical.

So, this summer, experience the real Speechpower advantage. Speechpower has four offices: Cubao (911-0832 to 34); España (735-7256/735-7312/735-7262); Taft (521-3601/525-5310); and Biñan (049-5113450/0921-2519521).

US student visa seminar set April 16

THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN Educational Foundation (Paef) invites applicants to US colleges and universities to attend the upcoming US Student Visa Seminar on April 16, Saturday, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Paef office, 10th floor, Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. The seminar speaker will be the US Embassy's non-immigrant visa consul in charge of student visas. This is the third year Paef will host a public fora to help student applicants to the United States with their visa applications. The session is particularly relevant for students who are expecting to study in the States for the fall semester 2005 (August/September). The seminar is free, however, space is limited. Call Paef to reserve for the April 16 event at 812-0945 or 812-0919; look for Mila Tan or Con Valdecañas.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

In Compliance with RA 7041

A. FIELD INVESTIGATION OFFICE (FIO)

1. ***PROJECT EVALUATION OFFICER IV** - Item No. PEO4-2-2004; SG-22
   Education: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience: Three (3) years of relevant experience; Training: Sixteen (16) hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Professional/Second Level Eligibility
2. ***ASSOCIATE GRAFT INVESTIGATION OFFICER III** - Item No. OMBA-AGIO3-51-1998; SG-22
   Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: One (1) year of experience in conducting community work, systems studies/analyses, counseling, investigation or other related work; Training: Sixteen (16) hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR)
   OR
   Education: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience: Two (2) years of experience in conducting community work, systems studies/analyses, counseling, investigation or other related work; Training: Sixteen (16) hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Professional/Second Level Eligibility
3. ***RECORDS OFFICER III** - Item No. RO3-8-2004; SG-18
   Education: Bachelor's degree; Experience: Two (2) years of relevant experience; Training: Eight (8) hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Professional/Second Level Eligibility
4. **STENOGRAPHIC REPORTER III** - Item No. OMBA-STENR3-32-1998; SG-11
   Education: Completion of two years studies in college; Experience: Two years of relevant experience; Training: Eight hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/First Level Eligibility
5. ***SECRETARY II**; SG-9 (3 Positions)
   a) General Investigation Bureau - B: Item No. SEC2-17-2004
   b) General Investigation Bureau - C: Item No. SEC2-18-2004
   c) Assets Investigation Bureau ---- Item No. SEC2-19-2004
   Education: Completion of two years studies in college; Experience: one year of relevant experience; Training: Four hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/First Level Eligibility
6. ***CLERK III**; SG-6 (4 Positions)
   a) Field Investigation Officer ---- Item No. CK3-7-2003
   b) General Investigation Bureau - B: Item No. CK3-8-2003
   c) General Investigation Bureau - C: Item No. CK3-9-2003
   d) Assets Investigation Bureau ---- Item No. CK3-3-1998
   Education: Completion of two (2) years studies in college; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/First Level Eligibility
7. ***DRIVER II**; SG-4
   a) General Investigation Bureau - B: Item No. DRV2-9-2004
   b) General Investigation Bureau - C: Item No. DRV2-10-2004
   c) Assets Investigation Bureau ---- Item No. DRV2-11-2004
   Education: Elementary School Graduate; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Driver (MC 11, s. 96, Category II)

B. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (FAO)

1. **MONITORING AND EDP DIVISION (MED), FMS**
   *** COMPUTER OPERATOR III** - Item No. OMBA-COMPO3-2-1998; SG-12
   Education: Completion of two (2) years studies in college or High School Graduate with relevant vocational/trade course; Experience: Two (2) years of relevant experience; Training: 8 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/Data Encoder (MC 11, s. 96-Cat. I/First Level Eligibility
2. **GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION, CAS**
   a) STOREKEEPER II - Item No. OMBA-STK2-1-1998; SG-6
   b) *CLERK III ----------- Item No. OMBA-CK3-41-1998; SG-6
   c) BUYER I -------------- Item No. OMBA-BY1-1-1998; SG-4
   Education: Completion of two (2) years studies in college; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/First Level Eligibility
   d) CARPENTER II - Item No. OMBA-CP2-2-1998; SG-5
   Education: Elementary School Graduate; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Carpenter (MC 11, s. 96-Cat. I)
3. **HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION, CAS**
   ***HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER II** - HRMO2-1-1998; SG-15
   Education: Bachelor's degree; Experience: One year of relevant experience; Training: Four hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Professional/Second Level Eligibility

Interested applicants should submit applications within twenty (20) working days from the date of this publication to the Human Resource Management Division at the above address, the following requirements pursuant to Office Order No. 05-17, series of 2005:

1) AN APPLICATION LETTER STATING THE POSITION/ITEM NUMBER APPLIED FOR;
2) DULY ACCOMPLISHED PERSONAL DATA SHEET (CSC FORM 212);
3) 1" x 1" PICTURE (COLORED);
4) BIRTH CERTIFICATE;
5) BAR RATING/CSC CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY;
6) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS;
7) CERTIFICATES OF SEMINARS/TRAININGS ATTENDED;
8) SERVICE RECORDS OR CERTIFICATES FROM PREVIOUS/PRESENT EMPLOYERS STATING THE POSITIONS ASSUMED AND CORRESPONDING ACTUAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (IF APPLICABLE);
9) POLICE CLEARANCE;
10) NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) CLEARANCE;
11) CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) CLEARANCE (ONLY FOR APPLICANTS WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES);
12) RESULTS OF NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC TEST ADMINISTERED NOT EARLIER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THE POSITION; AND
13) CERTIFICATION UNDER OATH OF THE APPLICANT AS TO ANY RELATIVE(S) OF THE APPLICANT WITHIN THE FOURTH DEGREE OF CONSANGUINITY AND AFFINITY, CURRENTLY EMPLOYED WITH THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN.

*This is a republication of the vacancies published on September 29, 2004 and October 1, 2004. Previous applications were already evaluated and processed. New applications will no longer be accepted.

HARBOR POINT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
27/f IBM Plaza, Eastwood City Cyberpark, Libis, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

The assets are being offered on an "as is, where is" basis at the Indicative Prices presented below:

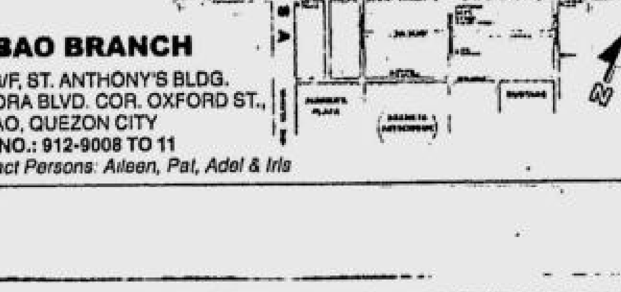
	Description & Location	Min. Bid Price
1	Laoag Land with 4-storey Building Corner of Gen. Luna & Paco Roman Sts., Fronting provincial capitol of Ilocos Norte (Lot Area: 180m2; Gross Floor Area: 683m2)	Php 12M
2	Vigan Land with 3-storey Building Along Quezon Avenue & less than a kilometer away from the town plaza. (Lot Area: 60m2; Gross Floor Area: 186m2)	Php 3.5M

Interested parties who wish to participate in the public bidding may secure the bid documents starting **April 11-15, 2005, 9am-5pm,** at the Marketing Dept. upon payment of non-refundable fee of **One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000).**

Deadline for submission of bids shall be on **Monday, May 2, 2005 at 10:00AM**. For more information, kindly call Michele at tel. no. 912-0246 or (0920)906-0257.

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Cubao branch is open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.



CUBAO BRANCH
891 G/F, ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG.
AURORA BLVD. COR. OXFORD ST.,
CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
TEL. NO.: 912-9008 TO 11
Contact Persons: Aileen, Pat, Adel & Iris

Ministry of Health
Majuro, Marshall Islands

URGENTLY NEEDS

(1) STAFF PHYSICIAN / OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGIST (ENT Specialist)

SALARY : $31,000.00 – $35,000.00 Per Annum

FRINGE BENEFITS : Housing allowance, sick & vacation leave, Life & Health Insurance, Travel to duty station and return to point of recruitment.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS : Graduation from a recognized Medical Institution including completion of regular internship in an approved hospital plus at least 2 to 4 years experience as an Otorhinolaryngologist (ENT Specialist)

DUTIES : Oversee and manage the ENT medical services and act in the capacity of the Otorhinolaryngologist/ENT Specialist, in doing so, the physician is expected to use his/her medical knowledge and skill in the field Otorhinolaryngology to examine, diagnose and treat patients including performance of appropriate surgical procedures at in-patient and out-patient clinics, assist/co-manage patients as deemed appropriate with other members of the Medical Staff, Oversee and supervise training of appropriate support staff as Audiometrist, operating room nurses, assist Bureau of Primary Health Care in its outpatient clinics, make recommendations to the Hospital Administrator in improving ENT services, conduct continuing education classes to medical and other health care providers, carry out other duties as assigned by the Chief of Staff such as coverage of on call duties at the emergency room, participation in Medical Staff Committee, etc.

Interested applicants should personally register and submit in a cream folder, updated resumé, diploma, transcript of records, certificates of employment, copy of board rating, PRC Card / Certificate, training certificate & photocopy of passport if any, to the:

PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION
MANPOWER REGISTRY DIVISION, WINDOW I
Ground Floor, BFO Bldg. (formerly POEA Building)
Left Wing Lobby
EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City

"Mag-Ingat sa mga Illegal Recruiters"
Interview will be conducted by employer on 11-13 April 2005

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PD Ref No.: PB050331-EL0022

The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR HEAD OFFICE,** wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

1 LOT – SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF RACKMOUNT SERVERS

TOTAL ABC: P 3,000,000.00

1. Bid Documents will be available for issuance starting **April 4, 2005 to April 26, 2005** at the BAC Secretariat Office, National Transmission Corporation, Materials Management Division, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)** per set.
2. Deadline for submission, receipt and opening of bids shall be on or before **2:00 P.M. of April 27, 2005** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Ave., corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. If the date is declared non-working day, the new deadline for submission shall be announced through a Bid Bulletin. Submission of documents must be clear, legible and readable. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
3. Pre-bid conference will be held on **April 18, 2005 at 2:00 P.M.** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Ave., corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.
4. All particulars relative to the eligibility, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A of Republic Act 9184.
5. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
6. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO G. LABAYANI
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – April 4 & 11, 2005)

PNOC ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Philippines MCPO Box 2102 Tel. No. 893-6001/1320

PNOC
The Energy Company

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PNOC - Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC) invites interested contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the project:

2005-2007 MUD ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR PNOC-EDC DRILLING PROJECTS
EDC05-024

The Approved Budget is P50,758,400.00 chargeable against PNOC-EDC fund. The contract duration is 730 calendar days.

Application Forms for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be secured from the PNOC-EDC Contracts Administration Group (c/o H.A. Baldanzo) starting April 11, 2005 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Five Hundred (P500.00).

For the purpose of clarifying certain issues, a pre-bid conference will be held on April 25, 2005, 2:00 p.m. at the BAC Conference Room, Building 5, PNOC-EDC, Fort Bonifacio.

Applications for Eligibility and sealed bids shall be received by the PNOC-EDC Contracts Administration Group at PNOC-EDC, 1st floor Bldg. 5, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, not later than 2:00 p.m. on May 9, 2005 and shall be publicly opened immediately thereafter.

PNOC - EDC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informality therein, to abort the bidding process, to accept such bids or to award any part of the work to any bidder whose bid is considered most advantageous to PNOC - EDC.

BAC CHAIRMAN

(PDI--April 11, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

OFFICE ORDER No. 05-15
Series of 2005

To : **ALL CONCERNED**
Subject : **RULES ON GIFTS AND BENEFITS**
Date : **25 January 2005**

I. PURPOSE

Being at the forefront in the fight against graft and corruption and guided by the principles that a public office is a public trust and all public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency, act with patriotism and lead modest lives, the Office of the Ombudsman is committed to upholding the highest standards of honesty and integrity throughout the institution.

In the performance of their duties and responsibilities, the officials and employees of this Office should serve as the protectors of the people and paragons of truth and justice. Thus, any act of indiscretion or impropriety, or suspicion of indiscretion on their part, shall greatly affect the honor and dignity of the institution and the people's confidence in it.

In this light, there is an imperative need to establish rules on gifts and benefits that are peculiar to the officials and employees of the Office of the Ombudsman.

II. SCOPE

These Rules shall apply to all officials and employees of the Office of the Ombudsman, in addition to other prohibitions on soliciting and receiving gifts and benefits imposed by law.

III. POLICIES AND RULES

Section 1. As used herein, the term:

Gift – refers to a thing disposed of gratuitously in favor of another, and shall include a simulated sale or a disposition onerous to the giver and/or unduly beneficial to the recipient.

Benefit – refers to a right, privilege, entertainment, exemption as any other similar act of liberality in favor of another.

Agent – A person who acts in representation of another.

Section 2. OMB officials and employees shall not solicit, directly or indirectly, gifts and/or benefits, for themselves or for others.

Section 3. OMB officials and employees shall not, directly or indirectly, accept or receive any gift or benefit from any party which may influence their official actions or which might reasonably be perceived as influencing or improperly relating to past, present or future performance of their official functions.

Section 4. In the course of the performance of their official functions, OMB officials and employees shall not accept any fee or remuneration beyond what they are legally entitled to receive in their official capacity in accordance with law.

Section 5. OMB officials and employees shall not accept or receive gifts and/or benefits, directly or indirectly, from any of the following:

(a) Parties, counsel, and their grants;
(b) Accused, defense counsel, and their agents in any Ombudsman case before any court;
(c) Suppliers and contractors, and their agents; and
(d) Other parties transacting business with the Office.

Section 6. OMB officials and employees shall likewise not accept or receive gifts and/or benefits from other persons belonging to the public sector not falling within the classification in the previous Section.

Section 7. OMB officials and employees may accept gifts and/or benefits from their spouses, children and parents, provided that the latter shall not appear or act as counsel in any case before the Office of the Ombudsman, or as defense counsel in any Ombudsman case before any court. They may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their parents-in-law, brothers and sisters, provided the latter do not fall in the classification in Section 5. Gifts and/or benefits received under this Section valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in a Registry Book to be provided and kept in custody by the Internal Affairs Board (IAB).

OMB officials and employees may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their other relatives within the 4th civil degree, who do not fall within the same classification in Section 5; Provided, that any such gift and/or benefit valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in the Registry book in the custody of the IAB.

OMB officials and employees may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their other relatives within the 4th civil degree, who do not fall within the same classification in Section 5; Provided, that any such gift and/or benefit valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in the Registry Book in the custody of the IAB.

The gifts and/or benefits allowed in this Section shall not be given and/or accepted within the Office and its premises or such other places temporarily occupied by the Office or its officers and employees in the conduct of office-related functions and activities.

Section 8. OMB officials and employees may give and/or receive token gifts of nominal value from their fellow officials and employees appropriate to the occasion in which it is made. A gift shall be considered nominal if it has a value of Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00), more or less, on a per giver/recipient basis or such similar amount as may be appropriate to the position and/or income of the giver. It must be understood, however, that if the aggregate amount of the token gifts of nominal value received under this section within the calendar year is Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more, the recipient shall cause the same to be recorded in the Registry Book in the custody of the IAB.

OMB officials and employees may give and/or receive to/from their fellow officials and employees emergency contribution/assistance of reasonable value or amount in cases of death, illness and other similar situations.

Section 9. Officials and employees may receive plaques, awards, certificates, souvenirs or other tokens of appreciation or gratitude and/or benefits as appropriate to the occasion/ceremonies in which it is made provided that such plaques, awards or certificates, and/or benefits might not reasonably be perceived as intended to influence the officials/employees in the performance of their official functions.

Section 10. All prohibited gifts left at the Office or its premises shall be immediately returned to the giver. In circumstances where it is considered inappropriate or impractical to return the said gifts (e.g., perishable goods), the official or employee concerned shall immediately hand over the same to the Director, Public Assistance Bureau, or his duly designated representative, who shall dispose of the same in favor of charitable organizations, schools, libraries, museums or any other appropriate institutions or organizations, including indigent families. The Director, Public Assistance Bureau, or his designated representative, shall report to the IAB any incident covered by this Section.

Section 11. These rules shall not apply to the following:

(a) Gifts and/or benefits received by the Office as an institution from other offices or organizations, including grants and donations;
(b) Gifts or cash award given by the Office to its officials and employees during Anniversary and Christmas celebrations;
(c) Gifts exchanged on occasions of Christmas celebrations among members of the Inter-Agency Anti-Graft Coordinating Council, the Constitutional Fiscal Autonomy Group and other organizations to which the Office of the Ombudsman belongs; and
(d) Performance-based cash rewards, scholarship grants, and similar benefits granted to OMB officials and employees by appropriate government agencies, private institutions, or national or international organizations.

Under paragraphs a and c of this section however, if the total value of the gifts and/or benefits received is Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more, it shall likewise be recorded in the Registry Book kept in the custody by the IAB.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the IAB to submit quarterly reports to the Ombudsman on gifts herein registered.

IV. PENALTIES

Any violation of these Rules shall be a ground for disciplinary action, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal charges, if warranted, against the erring official and/or employee.

V. EFFECTIVITY

This Office Order within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, and upon the filing with the University of the Philippines Law Center of three (3) certified copies thereof, including its publication in a newspaper of general circulation for three (3) consecutive weeks.

Simeon V. Marcelo
SIMEON V. MARCELO
Tanodbayan
(Ombudsman)

(PDI – April 4, 11 & 18, 2005)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON GOOD GOVERNMENT
Region VIII
Tacloban City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), Region VIII, invites interested parties to participate in the sealed bidding for the lease of the **ground floor of the People's Center and Library located at Real Street, Tacloban City as venue for "SUMMER BAZAAR" trade exhibit from May 15, 2005 to July 15, 2005.**

The bidding guidelines will be available at PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC Building, 82 EDSA Mandaluyong City and at the PCGG Regional Office, Nipa Hut Jones Street, Tacloban City, **starting April 11, 2005.** For inquiries, please contact **Mr. Alfredo M. dela Paz at Telephone Nos. 726-0034 and 725-6958 and Mr. Renor O. Dauag at Telephone No. (053) 321-3413.**

Pre-qualification requirements should be submitted on or before **April 18, 2005,** while bids will be received, opened and tabulated at **10:00 A.M. on April 21, 2005** in the presence of the bidders at the PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC Building, 82 EDSA, Mandaluyong City.

(Sgd.) **RENOR O. DAUAG**
Officer-in-Charge
PCGG, Region VIII
Tacloban City

(PDI–April 9, 10 & 11, 2005)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8978425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071 Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

PERSONAL

ACCOUNTANT

EXTERNAL ACCTG SERVICES 456-1967 • 0918-5156208 Jojo

CONSULTING SERVICES

USA VISA
For RN PTs Pre-Sch Teachers
www.travellerslink.com
By Appointment 0916-5696800

COSMETOLOGY

PINK Nips / Lips / Cheeks Cream P800 0918-9235216

Whitening Pills P1500 60caps 4545667 ; 09189235216

MASSAGE

02-3233269 BEST BOYS

600 AKHIN MASGE 8347357

ASK BELL MALE MASSEUR (0921)5364794

BEAUTIE'S MASSAGE
MLA:8857973 CEBU: (032) 2562187

BOY'S MASSAGE
MLA:4587993 CEBU: (032) 2593809

Candy 8971506;09212085309

MALE MASSAGE
374-8480

MASSAGE 8547144 VICTOR

MR. UNIVERSE MASSAGE
1157 Quezon Ave. 410-1259

★ Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

REFLEXOLOGY

CHRIS or BOBBIE 8548556

★★ FGRC 4127758 ★★

-spa Ctland 9 Mkt 8160151

•Wizard Massage 4213197•

TUTORIAL LESSONS

English Tutor GR4-Coll 0915-2594806 • 8124354 Ria

MISCELLANEOUS

WANT A WEBSITE?
As little as P500/month
Text: (0919)491-1614
www.cyow.com

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A MAID & YAYA 4386920

ll arnd Maid Yaya 4377986

ANGEL MAIDS 4213253

AVAILABLE:MAIDS/DRIVERS FOR FOREIGN & FIL. CLIENTS WELL TRAINED # 8967402

HI PAY MAID, YAYA 732-67-50

Best Maid Yaya Driver 421-4052

DIRECT MAIDS,YAYA, MIDWIFE 7289060

EFFICIENT MAIDS
PROV'L & CITY ALL AROUND MAIDS SCREENED, W/REF, NBI POL. CLEAR. CALL: NOMIE 8533505•8533504

EXP MAIDS w/ NBI 4398468

Hardworking Maids 421-3828

Help Agency 5328376 • 5322971

NEED MAIDS 09155544777 / 4325125

NEWLY ARRIVED PROVINCIAL MAIDS MIDWIFE NURSE YAYA COOK LABA GIRL/BOY DRIVER SCREENED W CLEAR. CALL"RUBY" 8735062 8737057•8737055

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

BEST MAIDS 8294261

TRUSTED MAIDS YAYA COOK LABA CALL: SOL 9124701

Trusted Maids Yaya Driver 7572089

TRUSTED/MAID/YAYA 8549921

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833-LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

QUEZON CITY

•Kamias No. 11 K-i cor K-6th• 9210255 9219967 9209822

KATIPUNAN Ext Coml 1200m² P9,500/m² 09189235216

QUEZON CITY

4STY BLDG QUEZON AV P160M new 1990m² cor lot terms Nida 928-0512 924-1749-0917-8941622

HOUSE & LOT

MAKATI

2Stry w/4 Door Aprt LA-122m² Nr D Fort P2.7M Neg Tel. 7791642 •09194667849 Norma

MANDALUYONG

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3-4tb/mdsrm/1-2grge P3.655M up 8903461

QUEZON CITY

NR ARANETA CENTER/Makro (1)two stry hse, 2 bungalow LA302m² 0917-7499447

SCOUT TRILLO 605M²
P16M well maintained
Call Nida 928-0512
924-1749-0917-8941622

RIZAL

1.5M 3BR 200m² 3CarGrge Brookside Cainta 656-8768

SAN JUAN

FOR SALE - RUSH!!! H/L 127 Sqm 1st West Crame, Sn Juan P2 5M (neg) T 7232935 Linda

BULACAN

1800/mo-20yrs Tel 9372688

CAVITE

CAVITE
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PARK
Maguyam Rd., Carmona, Cavite
Individual Titles are Ready
Phase 1 & Phase II Fully developed
with Existing Locators
Phase III - Pre-selling
Owner/Developer
CATHAY LAND, INC.
634-2956 • 636-0111 TO 14

LAGUNA

3400/mo 25yrs Tel 5208410

P3,400 25yrs 0927-4285945

P700T 80m²-LA 37.60m²-FA P60T D.P. 6mp P8.5Tma Cabuyao Laguna 0927-4285945

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

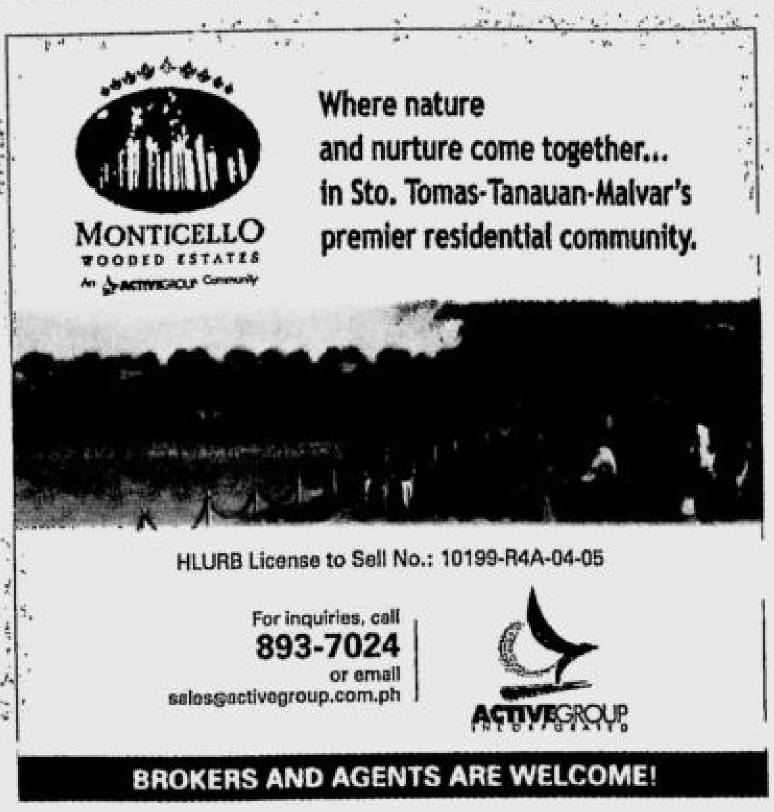
1.1M C5 Nr The Fort
10T/mo. or 4Yrs. No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8313226

Hampstons Place Frnt of Hatch Asia Global City 0917-5213838

MAKATI CONDO FOR SALE
410-8395 / 0919-8504468

P1.5M 3Br Condo Nr Mktl Drow 0921-6438096•7401083

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



Where nature
and nurture come together...
in Sto. Tomas-Tanauan-Malvar's
premier residential community.

MONTICELLO
WOODED ESTATES
An ACTIVEGROUP Community

HLURB License to Sell No.: 10199-R4A-04-05

For inquiries, call
893-7024
or email
sales@activegroup.com.ph

ACTIVEGROUP INCORPORATED

BROKERS AND AGENTS ARE WELCOME!

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAVITE

RSG GUEVENTHOMES
BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran!
as low as
P4,800/mo*
* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan
as low as P750T
30% D/P
in easy installment
70% Balance thru In-House
convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan
Mandaluyong Sales Ofc.
531-0395 * 531-1384 * 534-9921
(0920)910-0000 * (0920)RSGHOME
Toll Free: 1-800-10 RSGHOME
www.guevent.com
other sites available
Cainta, Quezon City

MAKATI

READY 4 OCCUPANCY CONDO RENT 2 OWN 2-4BR P12T/mo. 09177469270 / 09152728898

RENT 2 OWN Condo Resort! 2BR P12T RFO 0928-2473987

MANILA

2BR ROXAS BLVD. 2M 5361121

SN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.492M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

27sqm CTLAND T-9389719

CONDO, BNEW, 09192189817

★MALAYAN PLAZA/LEE GRDNS Condo 123BR 534-6610 Jojo★

PASIG

Com'l Condo 122m²
Pioneer Hilands Twr
7/F P45K incl. Nida 928-0512
924-1749 • 0917-8941622

QUEZON CITY

EASTWOOD 3BR3TB 4.2M
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
Panoramic View Pool 77m²
09184845443

Eastwood City 0917-5213838

HIGHEST CONDO in QC 1&2br Penthse2.5-7M 09189235216

TAGUIG

Hampston Place 0917-5213838

LOT

MANILA

MACAPAGAL AVE. SM ASIA
169M² UP LEASE 953-3256

MUNTINLUPA

P350,000 55m² 0927-4285945

QUEZON CITY

ACROPOLIS COR LOT 340m² P40T/m² 8896475;4796

CAPITOL PARK T-9389719

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAVITE

QUEZON CITY

RESIDENTIAL nr UP Ateneo 204m² to 816m² P8,500/m² 09189235216

Teachers Village 465m²
433-2691 • 0928-2739843

PROVINCIAL

★100% TAGAYTAY ★
240m² up 3,568/m² 134T D/P 6 Mos to pay 6T Mo. nr Taal Vista 6609372

CAVITE

RUSH!!! L - 1,135 Sqm Alfonso, Cavite near Tagaytay P1.1M (Neg) T 7232935 Linda

LAGUNA

P584,000 108m² 0927-4285945

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

PASIG

Bung 3br 2tb Garage Greenland 0915-5356072

QUEZON CITY

3BR SERRAMONTE VILLAS FILINVEST2 0917-7182116 JUN

BULACAN

1BR/TB P5500/mo Sta Maria Lyn M 8909718;09193384431

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

4Rent Penthse Dela Rosa
0917-8860440

MAKATI AVE 10T Studio F/F 35m² No Dues Call 457-8041

ORIENTAL GARDENS
MAKATI
FOR RENT STUD / 1BR
Bare w AC / Elegantly Furnished
531-1267 / 0920-5726686

REGENCY 3SALCEDO SF/FF DIR 5361121 09176090692

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MANDALUYONG

2Storey Apartment 3br 2tb T532-0486 • 532-3168 Off Hrs

PASAY

PASAY NR EDSA MRT LRT 1-3 BR W/PARKING 2318973

QUEZON CITY

Cub nr Stela Maris 9123902 .

CUBAO nr Sogo LRT 4210747

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

500sqshp Cubao 7257342 30T

MANILA

STUDIO, 1BR ROBINSON FAURA 5642622

ROOM & BOARD

Exec pad Philam QC 9289828

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Windsor Inn, Maceda St. Mla nr 7-11 Dimasalang P120only 783-6781 • 0922-8321888

BEDSPACE

LADY FREE AC /water, NICE & NEW 1,800 / MO 645-0806

BUSINESS RENTAL

PTAMO nr BUENDIA 1st class 129/148/185m² 8903461 loc. 34 or 19 o/c hrs.

RESORT LEASE/ RENT

Pansol Hot Spring priv 7767507

LOAN & MORTGAGE

BUSINESS . DOCTOR 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

256m² 0917-8860440 Pembo Mkti

Ofc Resd'l 3Flrs Finlandia Call 0917-8860440

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

Ofc @ 1.2M or 10K/mo 631-3296

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

IN NEED OF
PROPERTY?
H&L/LOT/CONDO/OFC/WHSE
For Rent or For Sale
Pacific Plaza FORT/AYALA
Essensa/Regent/Rockwell
Paseo Park View/PrinceP2
ShangGrand/Serendra/ETC
Forbs/Dasma/Urda/BAV
Nice Tagaytay Projects
>BSA TWR - Greenbelt
2BR w/pkg H-flr-RUSH
>ROSEMONT TWR - QC
Stunning Penthouse
BEST buy or INVESTMENT
Pre-Selling or R.F.O.
Let us HELP YOU find it
WE HELP OWNERS MARKET
PPG Realty Tel 718-1154
ALDRIN G.0918-9392979

HOUSE & LOT

CAINTA Rent/Sale 634-0392

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

FORD

RUSH SALE '03 Expedition Red 6321554 6343294 Emma

HONDA

OOCRV M/T 630K 0917-2527377

MITSUBISHI

*Bnew Adventure Grandis Pajero 20% DP Sure & Past Aprvl 4131015 09223128849

GLXI 95" WELL MAINTAINED 2727813 Fairview QC

NISSAN

01 Frontier 4x2 55Tkm M/T 0919-8707359 • 0919-3552515

TOYOTA

*Bnew Innova Vios Hilux 20% DP Sure & Past Aproval 4131015 / 0922-3128849

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Land Cruiser Trooper Surf Terrano Largo Delica Hi-town-Lite Ace Estima Serena Suzuki Elf Canter etc Financing T-in 7127539

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Van Buses Coaster 0910-4541788 • 534-4003

CAR (M/T A/T) VAN (8-15P) T 9386198 4270344

CAR VANS 929-2811 414-2877

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

RENT A VAN
0917-5444721 / 6424405

ROLFE MULTILINES
RENT A VAN
w/ aromatheraphy
751-0491-0917-8536992

TOYCO CARS
Udrive W/driver, All kinds: Cars, Vans, SUV • Mla.(02) 800-6595 802-3021 • Cebu (032) 345-1802

VANS-CARS-726-8388

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • CRV • REVO
HONDA • VIOS • ALTIS • LYNX • CRLA
MLA : 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

CAR LOAN

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

Republic of the Philippines
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
General Santos City

INVITATION TO ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of General Santos hereby invites interested bidders/suppliers registered by the G-EPS and accredited supplier of General Santos City for Eligibility and to bid for the following proposals.

	PARTICULARS	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT / FUND SOURCE
5CB-GSC-029	PURCHASE OF VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	2,139,384.25 (2005 Annual Budget)
5CB-GSC-030	PURCHASE OF VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES / MATERIALS	3,083,372.00 (2005 Annual Budget)
5CB-GSC-031	PURCHASE OF VARIOUS OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,158,845.85 (2005 Annual Budget)
5CB-GSC-032	PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES FOR STREETLIGHT MAINTENANCE	2,066,390.00 (2005 Annual Budget)
5CB-GSC-033	PURCHASE OF VARIOUS MEDICAL SUPPLIES	7,574,665.34 (2005 Annual Budget)
5CB-GSC-034	PURCHASE OF VARIOUS DRUGS & MEDICINES	4,869,705.76 (2005 Annual Budget)

BIDDING ACTIVITY:
a. Issuance of Bid documents: April 11-25, 2005 (BAC Office, 2nd Floor, City Hall, GSC).
b. Pre-bid Conference: April 26, 2005, 10:00 AM @ City Mayor's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, GSC.
c. Dropping and Opening of Bids: May 10, 2005, 10:00 AM @ City Mayor's Conference, City Hall, GSC.

Official copies of the Bidding documents shall be available to those who are interested to participate upon payment of the bid documents.

Tax Clearance / Latest Income & Business Tax Returns duly stamped & received by BIR.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Requirements, Receipt and Opening of Bids, Evaluation, Post Qualification and Award shall be governed by RA 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation.

The City Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract in situations set forth in Section 41 of the IRR-A of RA 9184.

(Sgd) RODRIGO O. SALANGSANG
BAC Chairman

(PDI- April 11 & 18, 2005)

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/out taking car 6567685

2% w/out taking car 5315577

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

COMPUTER

'03 Pentium4 25T 9289828

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BALDWIN BABY GRAND P330T PERFECT COND T7213124

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

OTHER EQUIPMENT

MEDICAL EQUIP IMPORTED New & Slightly Used - Suct Mach, Feed Mach, Trachea Sets, Hosp Bed, Alt Air Press Mattres Kathy 671-4792

PETS

DOG TRAINER 0919-3419012

WANTED TO BUY

'PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE'
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-7593489
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

A New Korean Company of Golf Course related business based in Alabang, Muntinlupa is looking for

GENERAL MANAGER

- Graduate of 4-year course from a reputable college/university (UP, La Salle, Ateneo)
- Preferably with experience in Sales / Marketing
- Able to communicate well, both oral and written, knows Korean language would be an advantage
- We offer good salary for the candidate
- Male, age between 40-50 years old

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive bio-data with recent photo indicating the desired compensation to:

Ground Floor, Tuscan Building
114 V.A. Rufino Street, Legaspi Village, Makati
c/o FVR Holdings, Inc. / Num's Sports Corp
Tel # 8185448 / 8186936 / 8186991

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

NATION Pawnshop, Inc. Pob. Meyc. Bulacan will auction unredeemed pledges of Oct. '04 on April 25, '05, 10am. - *Lanuza & Sons*
(PDI April 11, 2005)

PERSONAL

Thank You Holy Spirit
From: Oda Del Rosario & Family

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

L88EDC has TRANSFORMED & CHANGED the lives of many professionals into GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS. www.L88edc.com

RTW CONSIGN 3738821

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Resto Jeepney Park Bldg. EDSA Central Mand. 09209080179

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Luxury Car Drivers -WCT Off 2600 Legarda, Samp. Mla

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

English T'chers WCT Off 2600 Legarda, Sampaloc Mla

Need BEED Teacher 655-0600

SECRETARY Coll. Grad. Valenzuela • 4326488

Underboard Nurses, Midwife or Caregiver -WCT Office 2600 Legarda, Sampaloc Mla

Waitress (Pasig Area) must be pretty 635-5530

MALE/FEMALE

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mo! 8927828

CHINESE ACCTG CLERK
BETH-938-6725

HR • ACCTG • BUSS ENG'G
P/F up to P20K/mo T#3762642

IT Grads: Sell Websites
SALES AGENTS
www.cyow.com/careers
Text: (0919)491-1614

LICENSED SANITARY ENGINEER IMMEDIATELY HIRING FOR ILOILO ASSIGNMENT. NOT OLDER THAN 50 yrs. APPLY IN PERSON WITH BIODATA AT 2/F PRUDENTIAL BANK BLDG., 1377 A. MABINI St. COR. STA. MONICA, ERMITA, MANILA

Pattern Maker Sewer Expert in Tailoring and Dressmaking
Call / Text 0915-2594806

WHERE YOU FIND THE BEST.
JOB Market ONLINE

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

ELYSIUM GARDENS
COLUMBARIUM
227 E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., QUEZON CITY

Marketing Office:
301 GARDEN HTS. CONDOMINIUM, E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., Q.C.
723-6494 / 723-7651 / 723-6335
WELCOME BROKERS AND AGENTS

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
Mortuary — Crematory

"The newest and most modern Funeral Home & Crematory in the country!
Trunk Line: (632) 845-2334 to 38
Direct Line: (632) 845-2440

CONSORCIA LIM VDA. DE SIEVERT

Peacefully joined her Creator last April 6, 2005
in Boca Raton, Florida, USA.

Her loving children **Jose** and Sandra Sievert, **Alvaro Jr.** and Susan Sievert, **Sonia** and Rodolfo Noel, **Antonio** and Elsa Sievert (†), **Jorge** (†) and Linda Sievert, **Pablo** and Asuncion Sievert, **Asuncion** and James Baldwin, **Ma. Rita** and Cordell del Rosario (†), **Jesus Sievert** (†), **Alberto** and Marlyn Sievert, **Ma. Socorro** and Fredelino Angara, and **Rey Salvador** and Cora Sievert (†); her sisters Lourdes Lim Sievert (†), Clara Lim Santos, and Remedios Lim Lorenzo; grandchildren, relatives and friends requests fervent prayers and special petitions for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremated remains will lie in state at the Immaculate Concepcion Parish Church, Damar Village, Quezon City on April 15 (Friday).

Interment will take place on Saturday, April 16 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina following the 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at the Immaculate Concepcion Parish Church.

FR. VICENTE A. SAN JUAN, S.J.

was called home to the Lord on Sunday, 10 April 2005.

Wake: On Monday, 11 April at Xavier House, 2307 Pedro Gil St., Santa Ana, Manila. On Tuesday morning, 12 April, the body will be brought to Sacred Heart Novitiate, Km 23 Quirino Highway, Novaliches, Quezon City. Daily Mass at 8:00 p.m.

Funeral Mass: at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 13 April in the Domestic Chapel of Sacred Heart Novitiate.

Interment: Sacred Heart of Novitiate Cemetery immediately after the Funeral Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF HIS SOUL.

MENEO "SONNY" EVANGELISTA

December 2, 1941 – April 10, 2005
DLSC HS'59 BSC'64

He is survived by his sister **Marcia Evangelista-Sandoval**, brother **Honesto**, sister-in-law **Teresita Guzman-Evangelista**, nephews and nieces.

His cremains will lie in state at the Magallanes Chapel, Magallanes Village on Sunday, April 10, 2005.

Interment at the Magallanes Church Crypt on April 12, 2005 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Please omit flowers.

> **"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."**
>
> — John 3:16

1ST Death Anniversary

We love you and we miss you Papa

ABACO "BOBBY" ROA MUNDO

Cagayan de Oro City and Balingasag, Misamis Oriental
January 17, 1939 – April 11, 2004

Loving wife, **Myrna Galdo y Vega;** children **Christian, Jonathan** and **Jerome.** Daughters-in-law **Josephine Custan** and **Sylvia Tan Nery.** Grandchildren **Ryan** and **Bobby;** his relatives and friends request prayers for the eternal repose and happiness of his soul.

Date	Church	Time
April 11	St. Therese Chapel – University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna	6:00 AM
April 11	Immaculate Concepcion Chapel – Xavier- Ateneo de Cagayan, Cagayan de Oro City	6:00 AM
April 11	San Agustine Cathedral Cagayan de Oro City	6:00 AM
April 11	Carmelite Monastery Camaman-an, Cagayan de Oro City	6:00 AM
April 11	R.E.R. Chapel R.E.R. Subdivision, Cagayan de Oro City	6:00 AM
April 11	Balingasag Church Balingasag, Misamis Oriental	6:00 AM

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES
OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)
WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments.

BRIAN UMALI MERCADO "BADZZ"

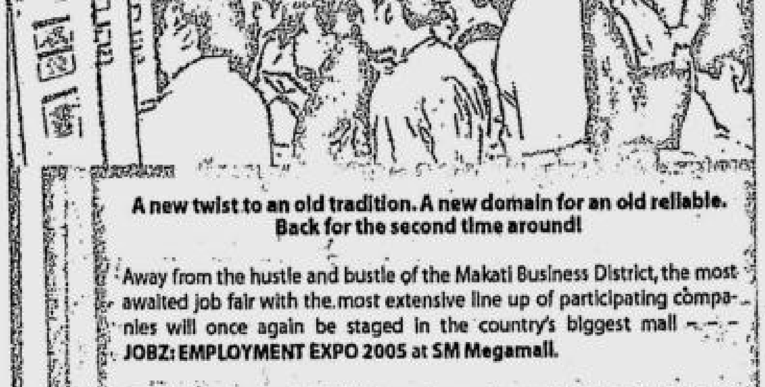
Peacefully joined the Lord
on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at the age of 25.

His bereaved parents **Bernabe "Tickboy"** and **Marisa;** brother **Bernard;** sisters **Maricel** and **Maebelle;** brother-in-law **Christian;** nephew **Branden;** and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Mount Carmel Church, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, April 13, 2005 at the Heritage Park, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Mount Carmel Church.

CLASSIFIEDS

JOB Market JOB Market LIBRE SM MEGAMALL
JOBZ EMPLOYMENT EXPO 2005
APRIL 28-30, 2005 MEGATRADE HALL 1, SM MEGAMALL

A new twist to an old tradition. A new domain for an old reliable. Back for the second time around!

Away from the hustle and bustle of the Makati Business District, the most awaited job fair with the most extensive line up of participating companies will once again be staged in the country's biggest mall — **JOBZ: EMPLOYMENT EXPO 2005 at SM Megamall.**

Gear up for the year's initial three-day employment fest on **April 28, 29 and 30** at the **Megatrade Hall 1 of SM Megamall.** As always, **Job Market** guarantees you benefits no other company can offer - **QUALITY EXPOSURE,** as we feature your products and services on site, online and on print. **SUPERIOR SELECTION,** as we offer you fresh pick from new and eager graduates to join the challenging corporate world. And most of all, we give your hard-earned money **IMPORTANCE** because with us you get more for paying less!

We would like to invite your company to join in this worthwhile investment as a sponsor. Join us and the country's foremost and leading companies as we explore the market for potential recruits to hone and develop. For more information, please contact any Inquirer Classified Ads branch.

MAKATI (MAIN): [illegible]
MAKATI BRANCH: [illegible]
QUEZON CITY: [illegible]
MANDALUYONG: [illegible]
MANILA: [illegible]
PROVINCIAL BRANCH: [illegible]

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
Diliman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE SCRAP/JUNK ITEMS
"AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

DATE OF BIDDING: May 4, 2005, 2:00 PM, Solarium Hall, Bldg.-1, Grd. Floor, NPC-HO, Agham Road corner Quezon Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

The National Power Corporation will conduct public bidding of the following scrap and junk items located at various NPC stations.

Item Description and Location	Minimum Bid Price
SCHEDULE - I	
1. One (1) lot of scrap metal consisting of junk diesel engine parts, stators, rotors, power cables, steel plate cuttings, steel annulus, steel beam, plant equipment and accessories located at Aplaya Diesel Power Plant, Jasaan, Misamis Oriental	P 6,344,000.00/lot
SCHEDULE - II	
2. One (1) lot of scrap metals consisting of metals forms, steel buoy with mooring chain, steel circular frames, steel tanks located at the Re-Greening Field Office BNPP, Morong Bataan	P 750,000.00/lot

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH OR MANAGER'S/ CASHIER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE TOTAL BID PRICE OFFER.
2. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN (2004 ORIGINAL OR XEROX COPY) OF THE BIDDER OR AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT (ORIGINAL) OF THE COMPANY AND ONE (1) COPY OF VALID IDENTIFICATION CARD LIKE DRIVER'S LICENSE, GSIS ID, SSS ID, POSTAL ID, PASSPORT, PRC ID AND COMPANY ID.

Interested parties who wish to participate in the public bidding may secure the bid form at P500.00/set from Mr. Alfonso D. Alday, Manager, Warehousing, Inventory, Traffic and Asset Disposal Division (WITADD) at Bldg. 1, Ground Floor, NPC Head Office, Corner Agham Road and Quezon Ave., Diliman, Q.C. or call telephone no. 922-8431. For Mindanao bidders, bid forms may be secured from Mr. Milo Relucio, Section Chief, Warehouse, Inventory traffic and Asset Disposal Section. **Deadline for issuance of bid form is 4:30 PM May 3, 2005.**

For the Materials Management Department

(Sgd.) FELIX B. TACATA, JR.
OIC, MMD

(PDI - Apr. 11, 12 & 13, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: (632) 921-2022 • (632) 922-2995
Fax No.: (632) 924-8470
E-mail: cdelapaz@globenet.com.ph

INVITATION TO BID

The **Social Security System** is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids, the **SSS-Makati Building.**

PROPERTY:
Location : Along Ayala Avenue corner Rufino St., Makati City
Description : 13 Storey Commercial Office Building with Parking Space
Lot Area - 5,881 sq.m.
Floor Area - 21,524 sq.m.

MINIMUM BID PRICE: Php1,700,000,000.00

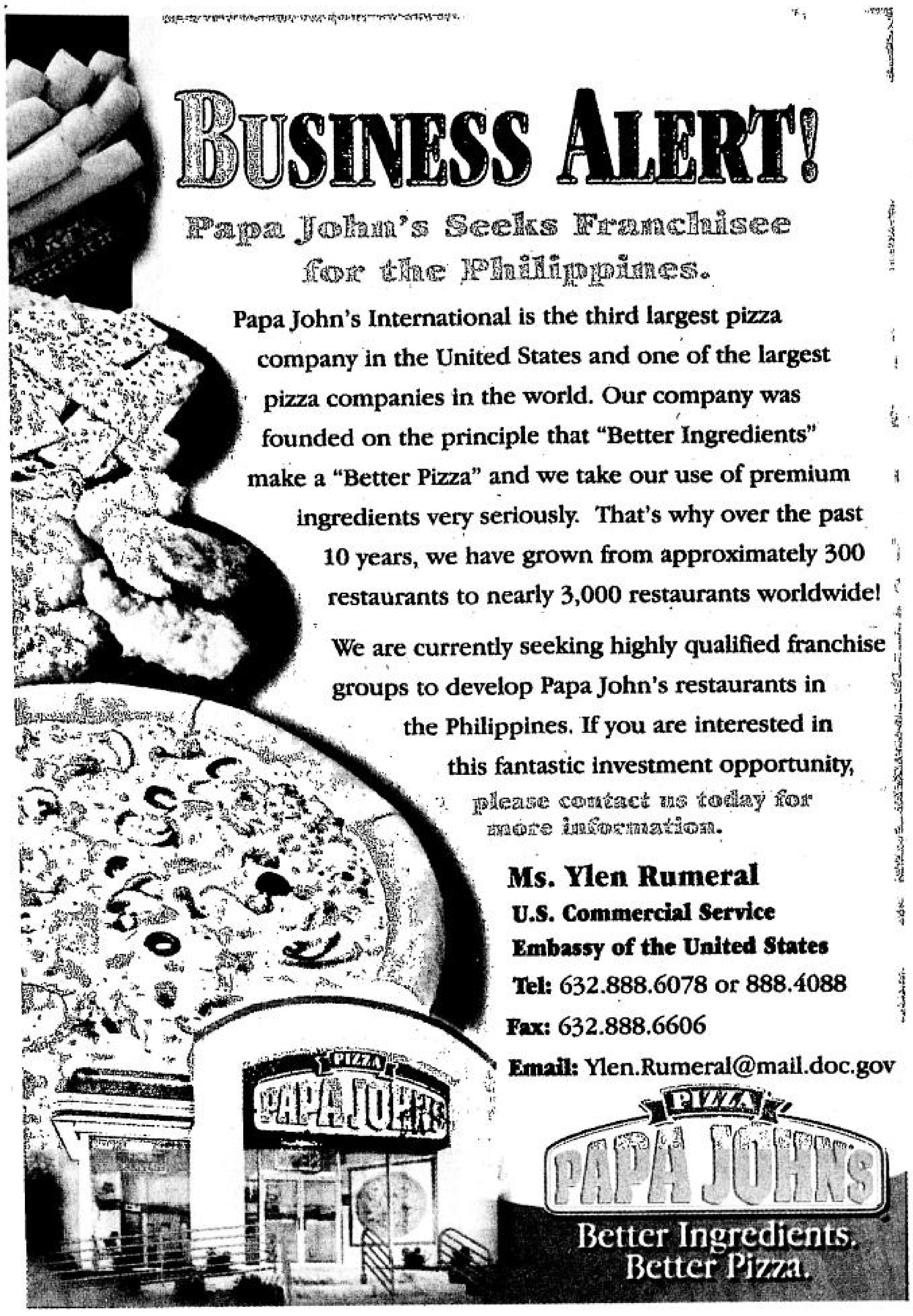
General Guidelines:

1. Disposal of properties is on **"As Is Where Is"** basis. Interested bidders are enjoined to personally inspect the property.
2. Bid proposal may be in **cash or in installment** with a 10% downpayment and the balance payable in a maximum term of five (5) years at 13% interest per annum. Bidders shall submit proof of income if proposal is on installment basis.
3. The award shall be made to the bidder who made the most advantageous offer to the SSS. As a rule, cash bids shall be preferred over installment bids. An installment bid shall, however, be considered as more advantageous if the installment bid is greater by at least 20% and has a higher present value over a cash bid. In case of installment bids, the bid with the shortest payment period shall be preferred unless the difference in the bids is greater by at least 20% and has a higher present value, in which case the bid with the longer payment period shall be considered more advantageous to the SSS. In case of a tie in the cash or installment bids, as the case may be, the bidder who submitted the highest amount of deposit shall be preferred.
4. Bid proposal must be accompanied by **bidder's deposit equivalent to 10%** of the bid price in **Cash or in Manger's check** in favor of the Social Security System. It must be placed in a sealed envelope to be dropped at the Bid Box located at SSS Bidding Room, 6th Floor SSS Main Office Bldg. East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City.
5. Deadline for submission of Bid will be on **May 10, 2005 at 2:00 PM.**
6. Pre-Bid conference shall be held on April 25, 2005 at 2:00 PM at the SSS - Bidding Room, 6th Floor SSS Main Office Bldg East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City.
7. SSS reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any defect found therein. All awards shall be subject to the approval of the Social Security Commission whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned.

Bids forms and instruction to Bidders are available upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Php2,000.00** at the Office of Mr. Nazario S. Cabuquit Jr., Chairman, Special Bids and Awards Committee, 8th Floor, SSS Bldg. East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City. For other information please contact Ms. Tess Serrano or Ms. Haidee Canoza at Telephone Nos. 920-6401 local 6052 or 924-7364.

(Sgd.) **Nazario S. Cabuquit Jr.**
Chairman
Special Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – April 4 & 11, 2005)


BUSINESS ALERT!

Papa John's Seeks Franchisee for the Philippines.

Papa John's International is the third largest pizza company in the United States and one of the largest pizza companies in the world. Our company was founded on the principle that "Better Ingredients" make a "Better Pizza" and we take our use of premium ingredients very seriously. That's why over the past 10 years, we have grown from approximately 300 restaurants to nearly 3,000 restaurants worldwide!

We are currently seeking highly qualified franchise groups to develop Papa John's restaurants in the Philippines. If you are interested in this fantastic investment opportunity, please contact us today for more information.

Ms. Ylen Rumeral
U.S. Commercial Service
Embassy of the United States
Tel: 632.888.6078 or 888.4088
Fax: 632.888.6606
Email: Ylen.Rumeral@mail.doc.gov

PIZZA PAPA JOHNS
Better Ingredients.
Better Pizza.

BUSINESS

PIC to stop funding ₱10-B SLEX upgrade

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE NEWLY formed Philippine Infrastructure Corp. has relinquished the critical role of financing the P10-billion upgrade of the South Luzon Expressway.

The SLEX project, which is supposed to be PIC's flagship project this year, involves the much-delayed repair of the Alabang viaduct and the 8-kilometer road extension from Calamba in Laguna to Sto. Tomas in Batangas.

According to a government official, the Department of Public Works and Highways will take charge and finance the project, charging it to the budget of the Medium Term Philippine Investment Plan, which was approved last month.

Established last year under the Department of Trade and Industry's National Development Corp., PIC was meant to start up infrastructure development projects that would help attract new investments and boost existing ones.

Officials said PIC was tasked to line up a P100-billion portfolio of projects with the help of the private sector.

PIC had conducted bids for the viaduct repair and the expressway extension, with local construction giant FF Cruz submitting the best bid.

The source said the bidding process was being reviewed to determine whether this was acceptable under the DPWH's bidding rules.

"If it passes, the bidding results would be recognized," the source said.

The PIC, which has already advanced at least P3 billion for the SLEX project, would recover the amount, the source added.

Still, PIC had lined up four new road projects, worth P30 billion, as part of its portfolio.

One of the projects is the P12-billion Eastern North Luzon Expressway, which would run from Sta. Rita in Bulacan to San Jose City in Nueva Ecija, parallel to the existing NLEX.

Weeding out bad bankers

TAGAYTAY—The chief of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' supervision and examination unit sees an urgent need to tighten up the country's "fit and proper" rule to weed out incompetent people from owning or operating any bank.

In a banking regulation forum with the media Friday night, BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said it was easy for banks to institutionalize poor lending practices if it did not have a strong management team.

"In other countries, people can be disqualified on mere suspicion (of incompetence). It's time to go after some people here. The fact that we're perceived unable to enforce our laws makes these people bolder," he warned.

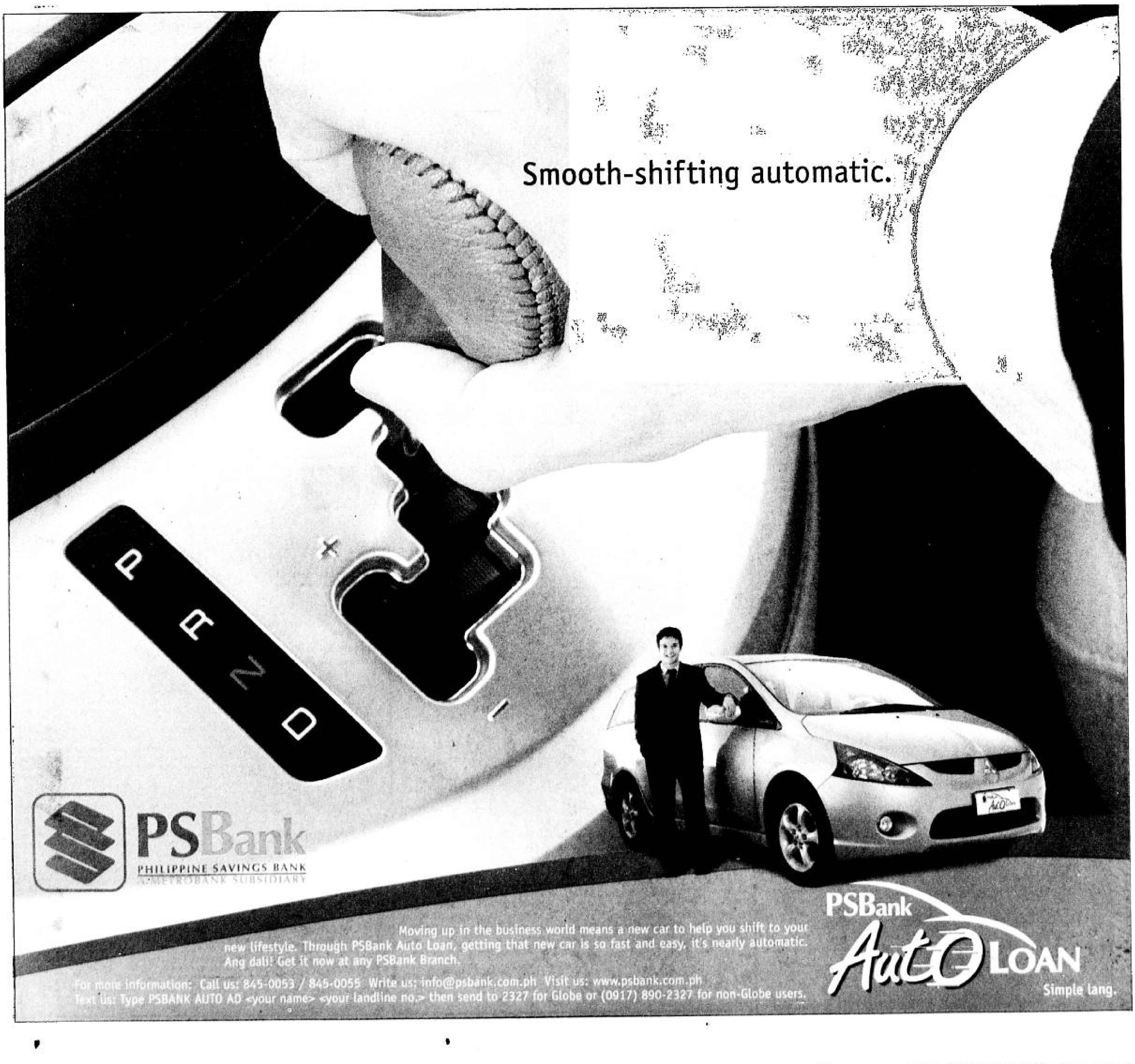
In one case, he said the BSP questioned why a certain person was hired as a high-ranking officer in one bank, even if he used to be affiliated with the same bank's corporate client and did not have any banking experience.

The BSP director who wrote the letter seeking clarification was immediately sued, he noted.

This principle of "fit and proper" rule in banking is provided in both the General Banking Act of 1949 as well as the General Banking Law of 2000.

It mandates the BSP to prescribe the qualifications of individuals elected or appointed as bank directors or officers, and grounds for disqualification.

The objective of these provisions is to ensure that bank management possesses a high degree of integrity and adequate experience, education, training and competence to do the job and afford better protection to depositors and the general public. *Doris C. Dumlao*


Smooth-shifting automatic.

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY

Moving up in the business world means a new car to help you shift to your new lifestyle. Through PSBank Auto Loan, getting that new car is so fast and easy, it's nearly automatic. Ang dali! Get it now at any PSBank Branch.

For more information: Call us: 845-0053 / 845-0055 Write us: info@psbank.com.ph Visit us: www.psbank.com.ph
Text us: Type PSBANK AUTO AD <your name> <your landline no.> then send to 2327 for Globe or (0917) 890-2327 for non-Globe users.

PSBank Auto LOAN
Simple lang.

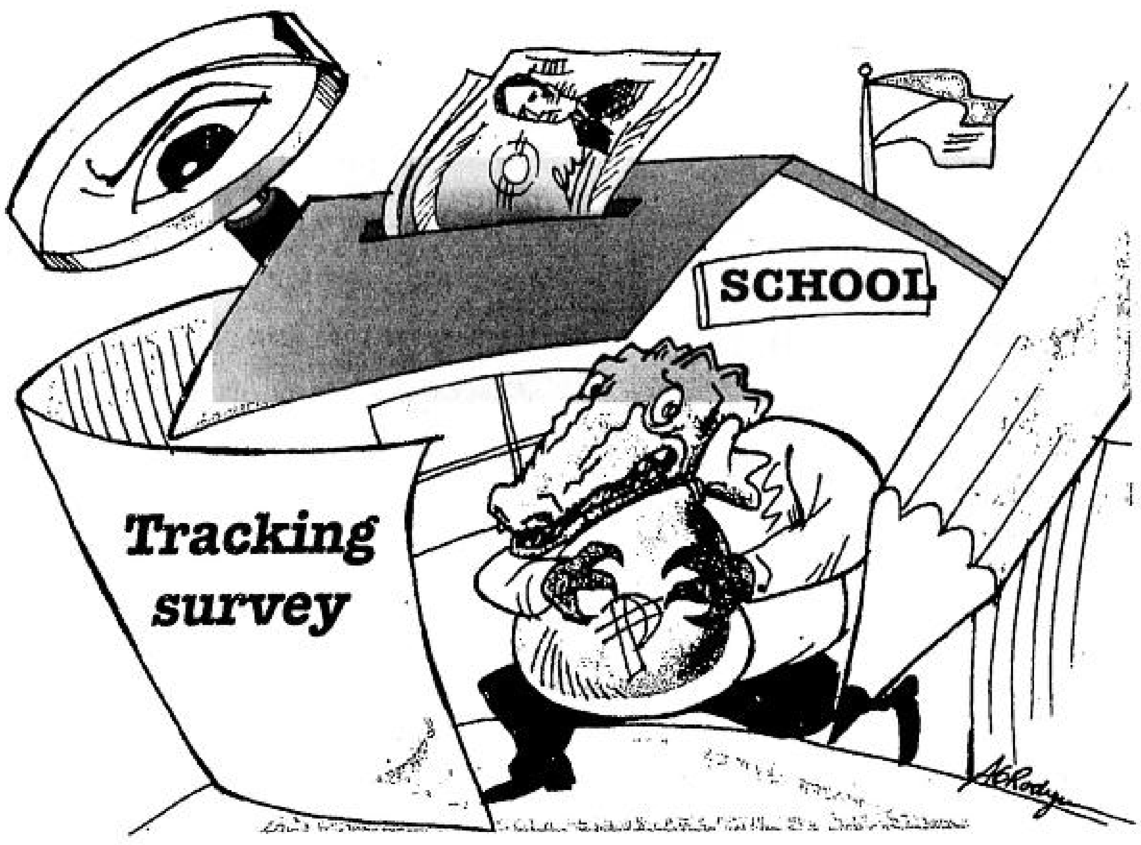
BUSINESS-TECHNOLOGY FORUM
Centrifuge & Vacuum Evaporator Technology for Virgin Coconut Oil
April 22, Friday (1–5pm), Summit Lounge, Holiday Inn Galleria Suites
Topics: VCO Industry, Market-Investment & Quality-Process-Pricing Factors, Business-Tech Model based on Existing C-VAP™ Plant Operations, Tech Licensing.
Audience: Investors, Farm Owners, Coops
Call: Lita (932-0587), Beatriz (687-3469)
Limited Seats P2,000/Participant

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

BOTE
QUALITY WINS THE FUTURE
LUMINOUS SWITCHES
OTHER MODELS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING ELECTRICAL & HARDWARE STORES NATIONWIDE

Expenditure tracking surveys can fight corruption

By Dennis M. Arroyo
Contributor



A FEW years ago corruption in public education was so bad that school children gravely lacked textbooks. The ratio was one textbook shared by every four kids. So the teacher would have to waste time copying the pages from her textbook to the blackboard. Today there are various reforms in place, and textbooks are closely monitored by civic groups.

Learning from others

But the Philippines can learn more from other countries on how to clean up her education system. Look at how Uganda used an expenditure survey to fix her awful funding leakages.

The public system there lacked the basics and families were paying too much for tuition. So during the early 90s the government invested heavily on elementary education. Despite a three-fold increase in spending, the Uganda government found no rise in the number of kids in school. The funds were not reaching the schools, so where were they going?

Exposing leaks

To track the money, the government ran a survey, supported by the World Bank, over 250 schools. It was called the Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS). The poll was meant to determine just how much public funds actually reached the public schools over 1991 to 1995. That way, the state could uncover bottlenecks, expose leaks, and measure the extent of the problem.

What did the survey reveal? In 1991, only a tiny two percent of the grant money for school kids actually reached the schools! In fact most schools got literally nothing. The government likewise found out that the schools and districts had gained financially by underreporting their enrollment.

Officials took action by arming the people with information. Budget allocation had to be made transparent.

Making fund data transparent

The state published every month the exact amounts of the funds transferred. These numbers were broadcast over radio and newspapers. It also required schools to post the funds they received on their bulletin boards.

Law makers enacted bills that protected accountability and the flow of information. Districts were ordered to deposit all their grants to school bank accounts. The authority to procure goods was delegated from the districts to the schools themselves.

Soaring to 90 percent

Results were dramatic. The grants per school child that actually reached the schools rose steeply: from 2 percent in 1991 to 26 percent in 1995, then to 90 percent in 1999. Ghost employees were slashed from the payroll: these 20,000 names accounted for 20 percent of the total number of teachers. Leakages were also plugged: in 1991, fully 97 percent of non-wage funds were lost. By 2001 this ratio fell to only 18 percent.

The reforms in accountability shaped policy at the highest levels of government. The President of Uganda decided to make universal primary education among his top priorities. So in 1996 he eliminated public school fees for up to four grade school children per family (two of the beneficiaries must be girls).

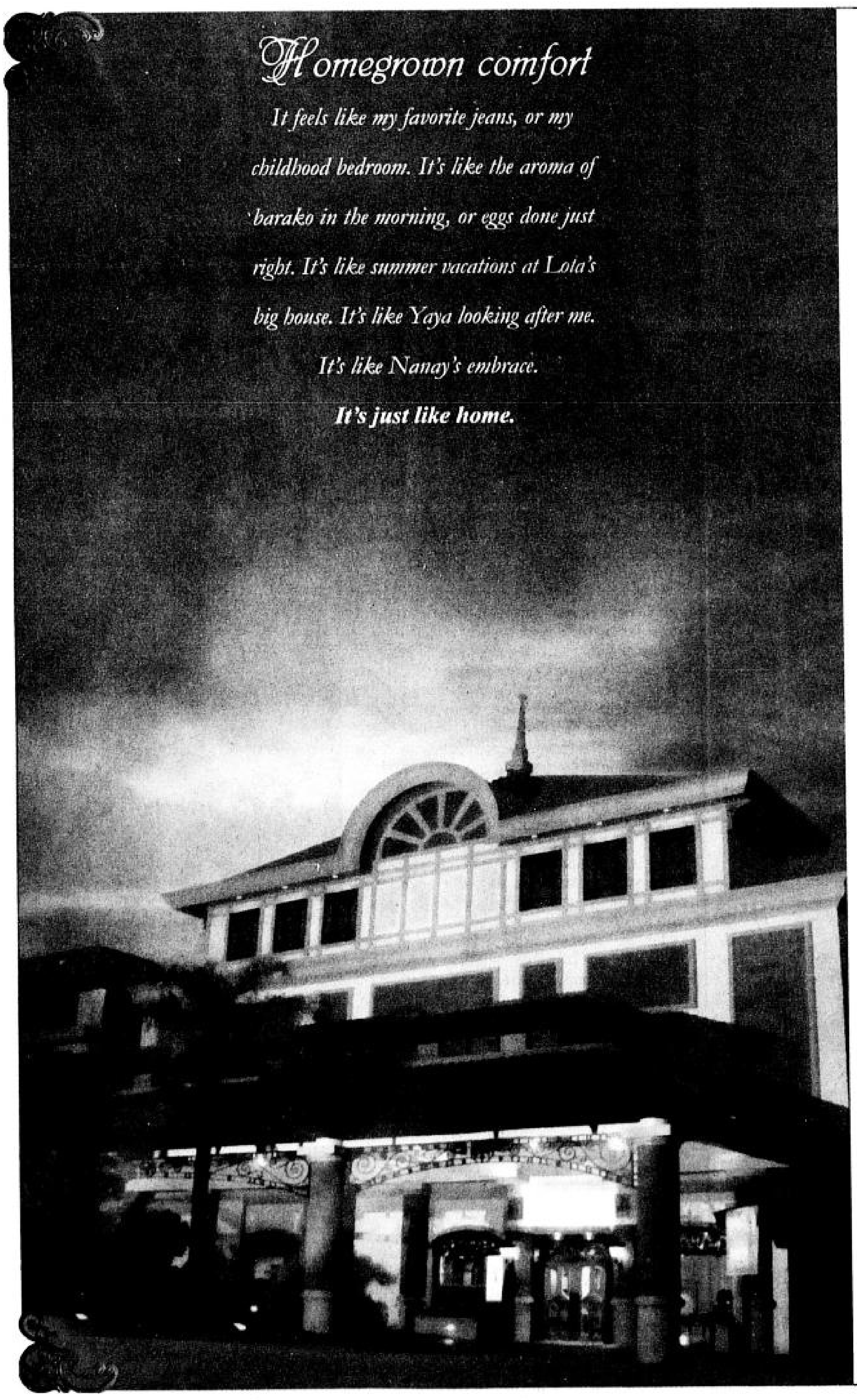
The striking moves done in education there can be replicated here in the Philippines. These changes were, after all, cost-effective.

Copying the mechanism

First, use a public expenditure tracking survey to find out the extent of the fund leakages, the bottlenecks, and how they occur. Second, share the survey findings with the public via the media. That will slash the veil of secrecy. It's interesting that the Ugandan schools that had newspapers ended up getting more money than those with no access to the media.

Third, implement reforms that uphold transparency. For example, the funds allotted to the public schools should be published every month. The data should also be posted in bulletin boards. Fourth, set into place reforms in fund flows. In Uganda, they took the form of devolving procurement to the schools and requiring districts to deposit the grant money in the schools' bank accounts.

Surveys that expose the flow of funds to the public glare will help plug the leakages from corruption.


Homegrown comfort
It feels like my favorite jeans, or my childhood bedroom. It's like the aroma of barako in the morning, or eggs done just right. It's like summer vacations at Lola's big house. It's like Yaya looking after me. It's like Nanay's embrace.
It's just like home.

The Legend Villas. An elegant hotel with amenities & services well beyond its old world charm. It's a luxury you cannot afford to miss, but can easily afford to enjoy. Set in the midst of a bustling metropolis, here is where you can relax, unwind, be yourself & feel at home.

Tuloy po kayo ...
Three words in Filipino that mean,
"Please come in."
But more than an invitation to enter,
it's a traditional expression that conveys
gladness, appreciation, and welcome.

Elegant yet cozy touches abound inside & out... fine wood finish so smooth to the touch, sparkling Venetian glass-framed mirrors, polished *barandillas* in a gently curved staircase, a cozy *gallinera* in a quiet corner... There is no lack of functional features & comforting amenities in its 125 rooms to ensure the convenience of the guests. And for all its efficiency, there is an underlying coziness in the design & furnishings of each room. More than just an elegant hotel, The Legend Villas is in itself an experience so familiar, so comfortable & so heartwarming. So much like home.

Home sweet ~~home~~ Legend.
Tuloy po kayo...

The Legend Villas

60 Pioneer corner Madison Streets, Mandaluyong City, Philippines 1550
Trunklines (632)6331501 to 10 • Facsimile (632)6320845 • www.legendvillas.com.ph

Owned & Managed by
The Legend Hotels International Corp.

Introducing
Premier 1
It's all you need in a premium checking account!
• Higher Interest Rates
• Easy Reconciliation
• Automatic Fund Transfers
• Special Discounts & Privileges
• FREE Personal Accident Insurance
MegaLink
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Maximum Deposit Insurance of Each Depositor P250,000.
For the Branch nearest you, call 521-7451. Or visit us at www.maybank2u.com
Maybank

Cities in the 21st century

MAPping THE FUTURE

Felino A. Palafox Jr.

URBAN and regional development in the 21st century should address the following:

- What will our cities and regions be like?
- What are the dominant forces shaping the city and the region of tomorrow?
- What are the implications of the built environment?
- What are the impact of our outdated and obsolete practices in planning, zoning, deed restrictions, building codes?
- What measures will be taken to address the "uglification" of our cities—air, water, garbage, visual pollution and traffic congestion?
- What will be the prevailing architectural styles? Architecture with a strong sense of place or architecture of "everywhere, nowhere, anywhere or elsewhere?"
- What best practices and mistakes made elsewhere in the world can we take lessons from?

We should examine the key factors that will affect the urbanization, ongoing development of cities and urban areas in our country and elsewhere in the world.

Many progressive cities have responded with more pragmatic/ more progressive laws, codes, restrictions, policies, plans, programs, designs and practices after the energy crisis of mid 1970s.

These progressive cites again are learning lessons from the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 to the terrorists' attacks of 9/11 of 2001. Yet our cities in the Philippines are still using outdated/obsolete laws, codes, restrictions, practices in planning, zoning, building and urban development, from 400 years ago ("Intramuros-Extramuros") laws of the Indies to post World War II, the past 50 years—rigid zoning/exclusionary zoning which have contributed to fragmenting of our cities and disconnecting our communities.

I have articles that expound on the following:

- Urban Futures; The City in the 21st Century
- Aerotropolis: Airport Driven Urban Development (Airport Cities)
- Overcoming Urban Core Problems: poverty and lack of jobs
- Cities in the Information Age
- Urban Revival in the Suburbs
- New Urbanism in the New Millenium
- Agropolis (Agro-Farm, Polis-City)

* Urban Agriculture; Integrating the Farm with the City Zoning

* Inclusionary Zoning (instead of the Exclusionary Zoning introduced in the '50's and prevailed the past 50 years in urban/suburban developments)

*Anti Snob-Zoning in Massachusetts, Affirmative Action in the USA

- Multi Use and Mixed Use Developments
- Urban Waterfront Development
- Smart Growth for Cities
- Postcards from the Future

* Urban Renewal/Urban Acupuncture

The 20 most likely influences/challenges in the metropolis/ cities for the next 20 years.

1. Growing disparities of wealth
2. The perpetual underclass - the urban poor
3. Garbage—solid waste management and visual pollution
4. Air pollution
5. Water pollution—water crisis
6. Energy crisis
7. "Smart growth," environmental and planning initiatives to limit urban sprawl
8. The Internet and telecommunications technology
9. The deterioration of the "first ring" post World War II suburbs
10. Shrinking of the household size, single parents, "empty-nesters"
11. Aging population, senior housing
12. Expanded highway system to serve the "edge cities," suburban and ex-urban development
13. Social integration of the various income classes in the cities and in the suburbs
14. Terrorism and security—home security
15. Housing
16. Shopping malls, retail, dining, entertainment destinations
17. Traffic and transportation congestion
18. De-industrialization of central cities
19. Urban renewal, urban redevelopment, urban renaissance
20. Connecting communities

In 2000, the urban population of the Philippines reportedly became the majority—58 percent.

Major economic, social, political and technological forces will influence how the city develops well into the 21st century.

There will be two possible scenarios—optimistic and pessimistic. My other articles, "Cities in the 21st Century," and "Global Trends and Revolutionary Ideas" explore some snapshots of the future. Our cities will have alternative "Urban Futures." Now, which "Postcards from the Future" will our cities and regions look like?

(This article reflects the personal opinion of the author and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines. The author is Principal Architect, Urban Planner and Founder of Palafox Associates. Feedback at mapsec@globenet.com.ph)

LAST CALL!
WHAT IF SOME OF THE GREATEST MARKETING GURUS TOLD YOU THEIR SECRETS OF SUCCESS?

1st MARKET MASTERS CONFERENCE

April 13 & 14, 2005 • PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER

PULL AND PUSH MARKETING:
Theme: "Build the Brand, Close the Sale."

Alex Castillo
President
Del Monte Phils.

Noel Lorenzana
Director of Marketing
Unilever Phils.

Marie Lee
General Manager
TNS Research

Herbert Sy
Senior VP & Director
Super Value Inc.

Robert Mebruer
Chairman/CEO
Demo Power Asia
& Act Media Asia

Zander Taningco
VP- Category Sales
Development
Nestle, Phils.

Day 1
- **Brand Positioning:** How to choose a winning proposition
- **Brand Personality:** How to conceive and communicate what your brand represents
- **Brand A&P:** How to have a cost-efficient marketing budget

Day 2
- **Key Account Partnership:** How to influence key retailers to push your brand
- **In-Store Demo:** How to increase closing rate at the point-of-purchase
- **Account-Specific Sales Promo:** How to plan and evaluate promo effectiveness

CONFERENCE INVESTMENT
(non-refundable but transferable course fee includes attendance to all technical sessions, 2 snacks, and a certificate of completion)
Regular (paid during March 2005) P 6,000 per participant
On Site (paid after March 31, 2005) P 7,000 per participant

For Inquiries, please call Mansmith and Fielders, Inc.
722-2318 Or 727-7142 • Mobile No.: 0920-9223732 or email info@mansmith.net

Organized by:
MANSMITH AND FIELDERS, INC.
Specialist in Marketing and Sales Training
www.mansmith.net

For the benefit of:
MARKPROF FOUNDATION INC
www.markprof.org

Official Print Media Partner:
INQUIRER

INSTANT CASH!
No Application Necessary!

1% to 2%
JEWELRY LOANS
The Lowest Anywhere!

Introducing...
CITYSTATE
SAVINGS BANK'S
Jewelry Loans

Head Office
SHAW BOULEVARD
CityState Centre Building
709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Tels 636 3333 • 637 8397 •
631 9156 • Telefax 637 9156

QUINTIN PAREDES
461-463 Q Paredes Street,
Binondo, Manila
Tel. 244 4351 • 242 9583
Telefax 243 1723

BACLARAN
260 Quirino Avenue,
Baclaran, Parañaque City
Tel. 557 1751 • Telefax 551 1983

CHINO ROCES
Domingo Building II
2113 Chino Roces Avenue,
corner Dela Rosa St., Makati City
Tels. 893 7023 • 893 1712
Telefax 893 7078

MABINI
1315 A. Mabini Street,
Ermita, Manila
Tels 526 2736 • 526 2734
Telefax 526 2734

BALIUAG
Aliw Cinema Complex
Dr. Gonzales Avenue, Poblacion,
Baliuag, Bulacan
Tel (044) 673 3559
Telefax (044) 766 2974

PASAY CITY
2350 Taft Avenue, Pasay City
Tels 804 0420 • 804 0426
Telefax 804 0427

- Instant Cash for Your Jewelry
- High Appraisal Rates
- NO Penalty Charges
- NO Hidden Charges
- NO Advance Interest

	CITYSTATE	PawnshopTM	PawnshopLH	PawnshopVL
monthly interest	1% to 2%	5%	5%	4%
advance interest	none	yes	yes	yes
penalty after 30 days	none	2%	3%	3%
free insurance	yes	none	none	none

*No fancy jewelry. Confidentiality assured.

CITYSTATE SAVINGS BANK
www.citystatesavings.com
Your Bank for Life

2003-2004 Top Savings Bank by National Consumers Affairs Foundation
2004 Most Outstanding Savings Bank by Consumers Union of the Philippines

Listed in the Philippine Stock Exchange
Member: Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC)
(Deposit Insured up to P250,000.00)

BancNet
Non stop banking network

Interior designers turn entrepreneurs

LICENSED Interior Designers Kristine Neri and Jennifer de Dios who have been partners for seven years, had difficulty sourcing pieces that would fit the interiors that they were designing. They were limited to pieces in the market that they felt seemed too "generic" and so "perfectly-matching", lacking the distinction and style that would suit the varied personalities of their clients.

Neri and De Dios resorted to designing their own pieces. Later on they ended up manufacturing these as well.

Today they run Indigo, a lifestyle store in Megamall that carries the creation of the two while offering interior design services.

Neri and De Dios were classmates at the University of the Philippines. After college, Kristine worked in an architectural firm while handling interior design projects on the side. Jennie's success at her college exhibit prompted her to venture on her own. In 1998, they decided to team up and establish Indigo.

"We had no financial help from both our parents, we wanted to prove to ourselves that we can do it on our own, we had savings from our design service and that's what we used," says Kristine.

Jennie calls it a perfect collaboration. "Whatever she learned in her corporate setup helped our company in terms of operations. I had a different view of how things would be because I was never employed; I basically managed my own business and because of this I was able to set up my own network and clientele which directly helped with the projects that we've been getting now. It's a perfect combination."

It was in May last year that the duo decided to go full blast with the furniture side of the business by opening a showroom at the 2nd level of Megamall Building A. Mallgoers who pass by the store are liking what they see.

Designed and manufactured in the Philippines, Indigo creations have an "imported" look, which to Filipinos, means that craftsmanship is excellent and the design, world-class. According to Kristine, the style of Indigo is without borders: "If you look at the interior and the furniture, the design is not boxy or curly or wavy. In a way Indigo is seamless. It's Filipino-made and has a global appeal."

The pieces in Indigo reflect the owners' creativity and good taste. The dramatic Balt Daybed can be a point of interest in your condo unit. The dining chairs are updated versions of late 50's furniture. The dining tables are favorites of architects and designers who appreciate the thoughtful artistry in the pieces.

"One of our bestsellers is the faux leather storage box," Kristine points out. It's a simple, stylish piece that can be used as an ottoman, a side table, a storage box, and if your living space is in lack of a centerpiece to hold the area together, you can open up two boxes and they form into a fine-looking, functional coffee table. Their lamps are sleek and the throw pillows add color and character to any room.

INDIGO owners Kristine Neri and Jennie De Dios

It may be hard to imagine how these two young ladies are able to manage the different facets of their business -- from design to manufacturing.

"Its all about having that passion in what we do, we both enjoy and love our work", says Kristine. Jennie explains further that "it's also a good feeling when you see a t the end of the day how many people from the showroom down to the factory that we are able to help"

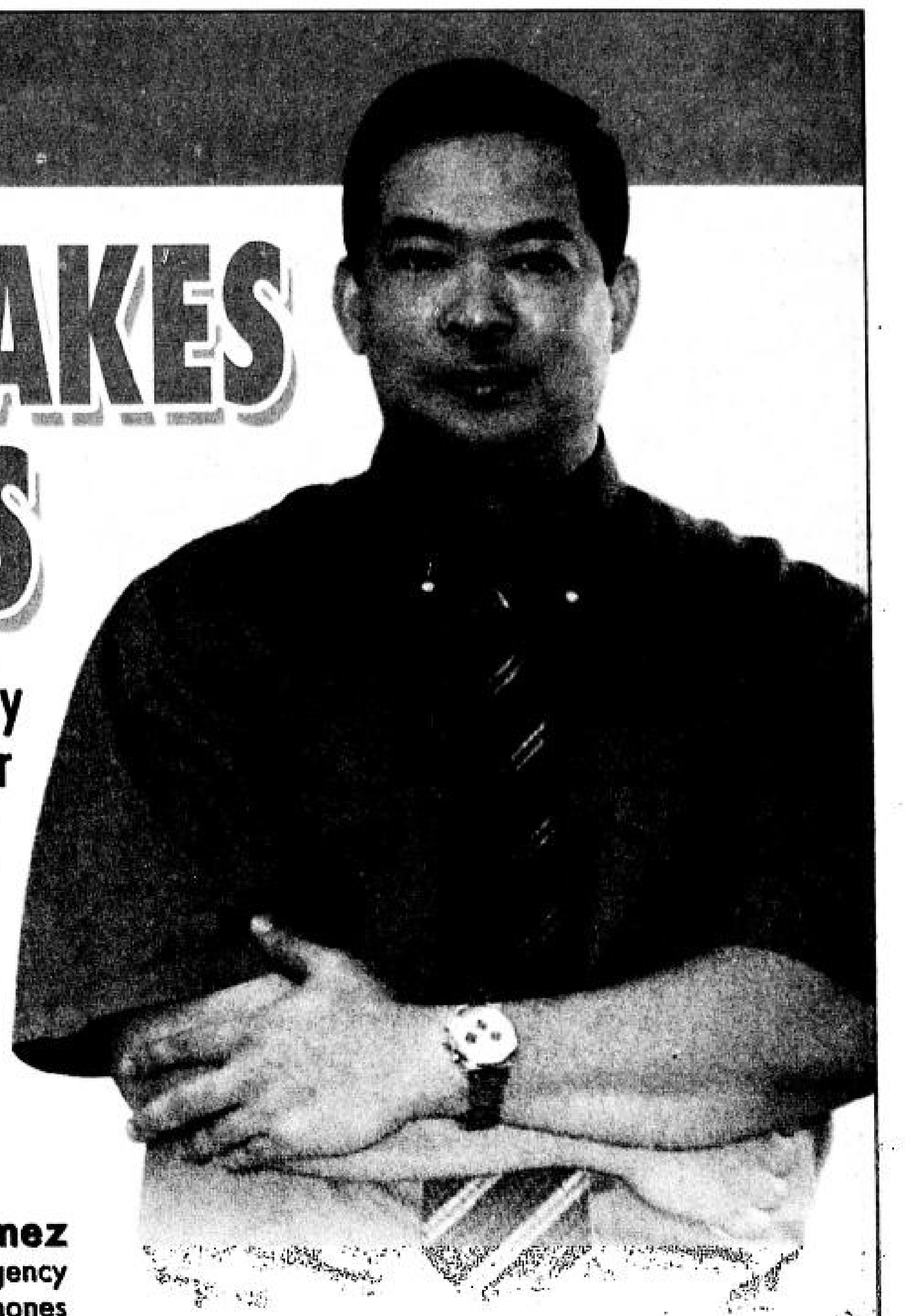
If you've ever been to an Ice Monster outlet, it might interest you to know that the store's over-all look were conceptualized and developed by Kristine and Jennie. All the sleek interiors of Piandre Salons were also interior designed by the two.

This coming May, all of Indigo's staff will be hard at work preparing for the store's grand launch. Indigo will introduce a new collection.

For those who are used to furniture stores that offer mass-produced pieces, Jenny says, "Indigo will initially come out more expensive. But those who really understand exactly what is there in the market always say that our prices are competitive," explains Jennie. Indigo's philosophy is to always design classic and timeless pieces keeping in mind that "comfort is top consideration" adds Kristine.

PLDT 10 PESOS PER CALL

SELLING LIKE HOTCAKES TO ENTREPRENEURS



PLDT's 10 pesos per call is proving to be a smash hit not only to housewives but to professionals and entrepreneurs all over the country. They're picking up the phone and well, making calls all over, this time, minus the worry of a big fee.

"Sa PLDT P10 per call, two ways kaming natutulungan. Malaki yung na-save namin. Lagi pa naming natatawagan yung mga job applicants saan man sila. Dahil halos lahat naman ng Pilipino naka-PLDT at SMART o TALK 'N text, di ba?

Vicente Gomez
President, Light & Hope Placement Agency
Uses his PLDT landline to contact applicants on their SMART & TALK 'N TEXT cellphones

OVER 20 MILLION SUBSCRIBERS ANG POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Now entrepreneurs can call and be called by their customers, suppliers and business associates nationwide. Buong Pilipinas, nagtatawagan na dahil sa PLDT 10 pesos per call.

"As a project and construction management company, dapat sure kami that our clients' designers and contractors all over the country, kayang tapusin ang project on time, with quality and within budget. Due to the state of our economy, we have to save in any way we can. Lalo na sa telephone expenses. Malaki ang naitulong dito ng PLDT's unlimited P10 per call."

Pinky Castro-Roxas
VP for Business Development
SP Castro & Associates
Uses her PLDT landline to
reach her business partners

"It's very important for me to be able to speak with suppliers and contractors at the exact moment that i need to... my phone bill really goes up because its usually for long periods of time. The PLDT P10 per call is much more practical. Hindi na ko nagmamadaling makipagusap. I can discuss full details of the project without worrying about expensive phone bills."

Marja Corcuera
Interior Designer, Diseño Design Concepts & Services
Calls her suppliers and contractors from her PLDT landline

"We are an executive search consultant firm always looking for potential managers from Cebu and Davao that we can refer to our local clients in Visayas and Mindanao. But not all candidates are qualified. That's why PLDT's P10 per call NDD promo is really very helpful. We save so much money... we can interview candidates in their landline or cellphones extensively and find the right people for the job."

Nenette Dollente
President and Managing Director
Gielczyk & Associates, an executive search company
Calls candidates for executive
positions in VISMIN using PLDT landline

"Nung nagbi-bid kami for a major project in Davao, I had to recap my whole presentation over the phone! Halos one hour ang inabot. Buti na lang may PLDT P10 per call. I didn't have to worry dun sa bill ko. Ang linaw pa ng linya. Kaya more projects and more savings at the same time!"

Melina May F. Valdez
Chairman & Managing Director
Brainbeam Events, Inc.
Uses her PLDT landline to close business transactions

"I'm able to call more customers at less cost. I also get immediate connections to any Smart and Talk'N Text cellphone using my landline."

Edison Guzman
Import-Export businessman
Calls his customers using PLDT

Sa iba, napakakonti lang ang matatawagan, konti lang ang pwedeng maging kliyente. SA PLDT 10 PESOS per call, buong PILIPINAS pwedeng maging customer. IBA PA RIN ANG MAY PLDT LANDLINE. Tawag lang nang tawag.

Di ka pa naka-PLDT landline? Pa-install ka na, now na!

Cooking a venture from heirloom recipés

By Alex V. Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—Ask any Dumagueteño what food item they can give as *pasalubong* and chances are, *budbud kabog* (suman) easily comes to mind.

What is in Dumaguete that's unique? Even Mayor Agustin Perdices was puzzled why Tourism Secretary Ace Durano wanted to include Dumaguete in his "food" promotions.

But then again, a fast growing product is starting to get the attention of food lovers in Dumaguete and Cebu. And this is proudly Dumaguete-made.

Every day, six days a week, Janet's kitchen in Barangay Talay turns out 10 cases of bottled food products for its growing clientele.

Its products are bottled with names such as Bacalao Negrense, Putanesca Negrense, Arenques Negrense, Gourmet Tuyo, Gourmet Bulad, Pickled Asparagus and eight other delectable products.

"When the item has the 'Negrense' name in it, it means that it uses ingredients which are available locally," explained Sean Fleischer Owens, 40, the cook whose passion for trying new recipes drove him to start this business in November last year along with a business partner, Rodrigo Gandiongco, owner of the then Julie's, now Drieg's chain of bakeshops.

Owens learned the art of cooking from his mom Janet, who made sure that her love for cooking would rub off on her children.

When she passed away seven years ago, she left several handwritten personal recipes, which her children now consider among their precious possessions.

Owens and his brother Brian had gotten to love cooking so much that they even have an ongoing "sibling rivalry" as to who could out-cook the other.

The concept of starting a business came about after Owens served pickled asparagus to his friends in March last year.

It was a hit. And after refining the recipes during taste tests for friends, he and his partner started constructing the kitchen and office at Gandiongco's compound in Barangay Talay in June.

The moment Owens and Gandiongco thought of the businesses, they knew there was only one way to do it, and that meant doing it right the first time.

They hired a consultant from Manila and learned to drop spoilage to 0.1 percent. They also looked for bottles in Cebu and bought all the stainless steel equipment, pots and pans, in Manila.

Janet's kitchen started its debut in Cebu grocery stores in January.

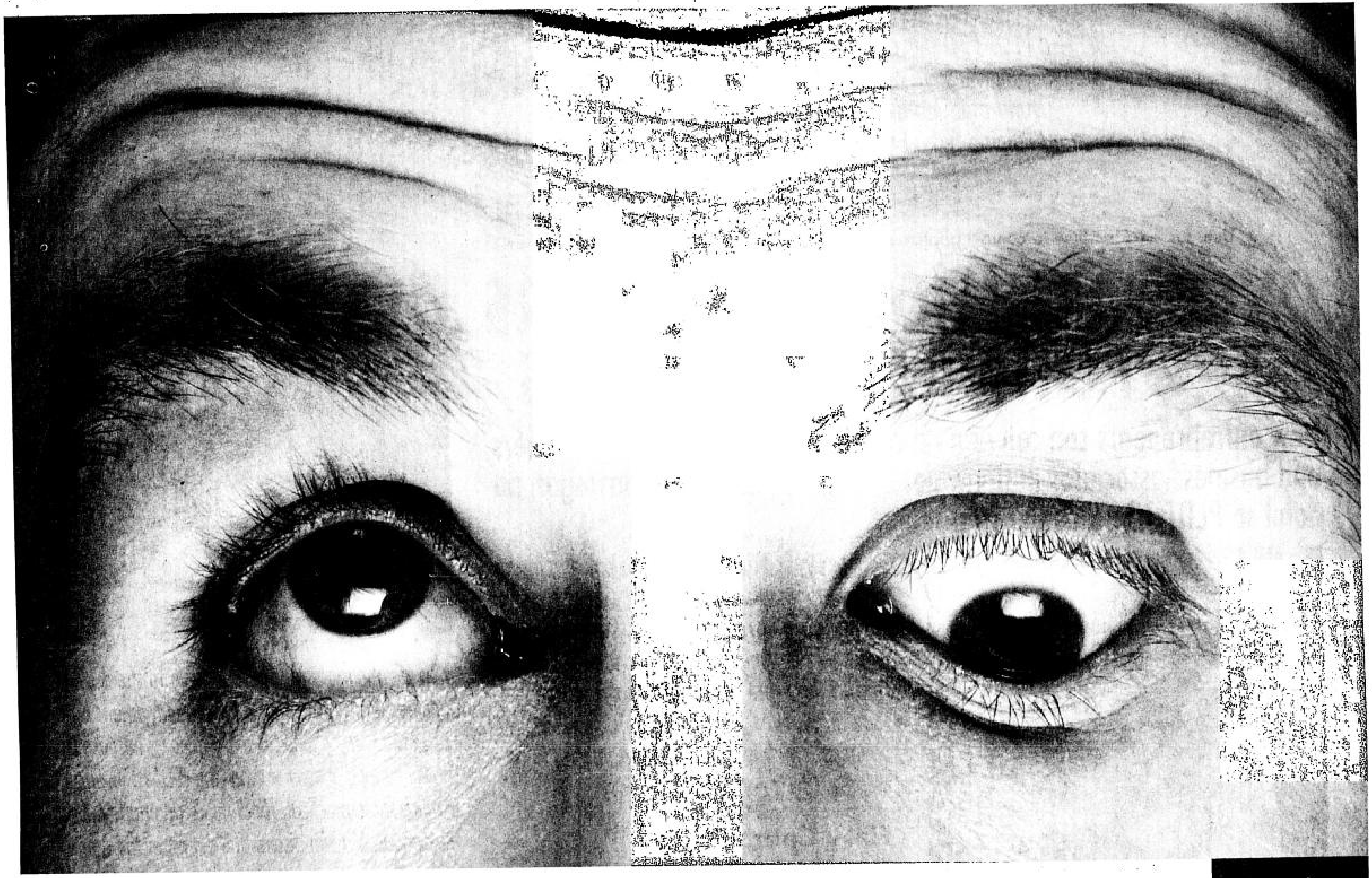
"We brought samples and left them there for testing. In no time, we started getting calls from grocery store owners asking for a price list," Owens said, adding that their entry into the Metro Manila market is not too far ahead.

Despite their growing popularity, Owens keeps an open mind about improving their products. "I won't cook something that I myself will not eat. And I will not cook if it doesn't taste good," he said.

This business philosophy might not win him the recognition as the best-selling low-priced brand. "We don't compete in terms of price. We compete in taste."

Janet's Kitchen
Pickled Asparagus

SEAN Fleischer Owens displays his bottled products.
ALEX V. PAL/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU



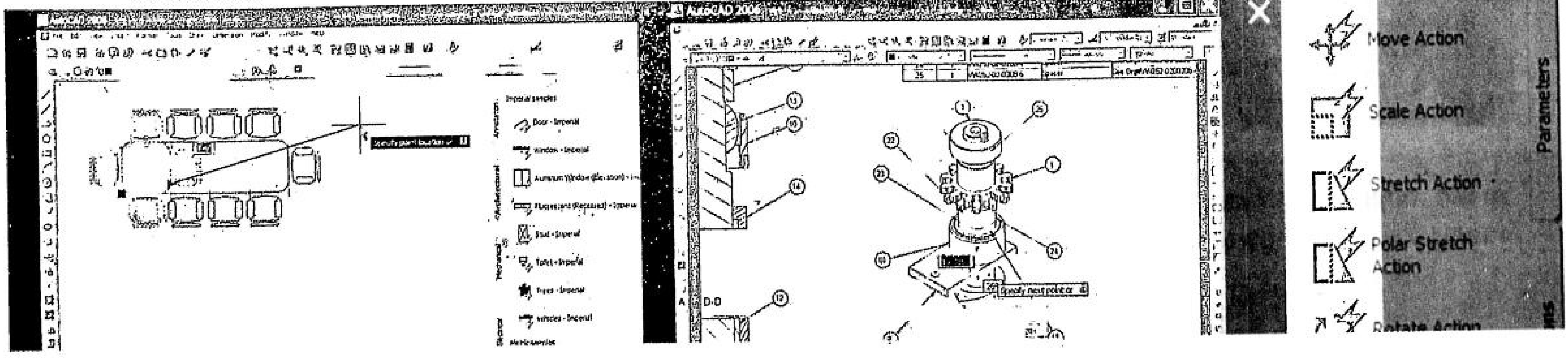
Stop focusing on the command line.
Introducing AutoCAD 2006.

Idea:
Bring the power of the command line to the graphics cursor.

Realised:
Introducing AutoCAD® 2006 software. Now you have the choice of creating within your design or at the command line. No more wasting time. No more sore eye sockets. And no more headaches. To see how heads-up design, Dynamic Blocks, and all the other new features make this the best and most productive AutoCAD ever, get a full-version trial CD at http://south-apac.autodesk.com/tryautocad or email sapac.mktg@autodesk.com.

Autodesk

©2005 Autodesk, Inc. All rights reserved. Autodesk and AutoCAD are registered trademarks of Autodesk, Inc., in the USA and other countries. All other brand names, product names, or trademarks belong to their respective holders



OFW goes home to make beauty products for Filipinos

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

COMPANY owner, Teresita Perez-Villanueva (right, standing), with her plant manager, oversees work in one of the assembly rooms in the laboratory.

PHOTOS BY ANSELMO ROQUE

PROPRIETOR Teresita Perez-Villanueva in her office in her company's laboratory and business offices in Cabanatuan City. Shown are some of her beauty product lines.

CABANATUAN CITY—Teresita Perez-Villanueva had spent 25 years, practically half of her life, working as nurse in Saudi Arabia when she decided to pack her bags in 2004 and return to Nueva Ecija for good.

But work did not stop for Villanueva, 49, as she started building a company to produce and market a beauty product that she perfected during her idle time in Saudi Arabia.

Villanueva says she was working as a nurse for a royal family in Saudi Arabia, and during her free time, worked to perfect a formula for a beauty cream that she sold to fellow Filipinas and her co-workers.

She said she got interested in formulating a beauty cream through a friend who worked with a dermatologist. Through several trials, she started producing her own product. She bought some of the ingredients in Saudi Arabia and other countries.

"Even the princess liked using my cream. Other women co-workers and some friends outside of the royal palace also kept placing orders for my product," she says.

Now her company, Pervil Cosmetics Philippines, distributes not only her "Magic Cream," but other beauty products as well.

The firm's laboratory, near Villanueva's house in Barangay Kapitan Pepe here, was humming with activities and workers were upbeat during a recent visit by the INQUIRER.

The workers say they were rushing production to fill up the increasing demand for the company's products.

Homesickness

Like most overseas Filipino workers, Villanueva felt lonely and homesick in a foreign land. Deep inside, she wished to be home permanently in a community she knows well.

But like other OFWs, she had to plod on for a living. In her case, her assignment to work for the royal family required her to work not only for the usual eight-hour grind but must be on call to attend to her duties.

She worked as a nurse at the clinic of a Saudi prince who is also the kingdom's deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

She lived in a room she shares with another Filipina worker in an apartment inside the palace compound.

It was in this assignment that she felt the urge to learn something that would help her family when she returns home for good.

'Magic Cream'

As a girl, Villanueva was already exposed to business. She had to help her mother run the family's grocery and eatery to supplement her policeman-father's income.

She took medical technology at the University of Sto. Tomas to prepare for a medical degree in the '70s. But because of the rallies and demonstrations that time in Metro Manila, her father asked her to transfer and finish nursing in a college here.

In 1980, after working as a nurse in a clinic here for two years, she went to Saudi Arabia where she worked as a nurse in the kingdom's Ministry of Health and later to the Ministry of Defense.

Villanueva says her husband, Nelson, also a former OFW, helped in marketing the "Magic Cream" in Cagayan, Isabela, Pampanga, Batangas and Metro Manila. A number of agents were also recruited and sold the "imported" product at more than P1,000 per bottle.

"I had to work very late at night to produce more to fill up orders. I was already receiving orders then from friends in Japan and in the United States," Villanueva said.

In January 2003, while on vacation here, she registered her firm with the Department of Trade and Industry with an initial capital of (US dollars) $20,000 [more than P1 million]. In two years, the principal capital was increased five times.

She also applied her product for approval of the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) which set requirements, among them putting up a laboratory.

Nelson supervised the construction of the laboratory and installation of the pieces of imported equipment. When she came home for a vacation in November, she decided not to return to Saudi Arabia.

Now with 12 workers, a chemist, pharmacist, microbiologist and a number of management personnel, her firm started producing soap that she called "Magic Cream Soap."

Other products that her laboratory would churn out are Magic Cream lotion, sun block and toner.

Villanueva's firm recently clinched a deal with the Mercury Drugstore chain and a number of shopping malls and department stores to offer her products.

She says her firm's success came from the trust that customers have given the products.

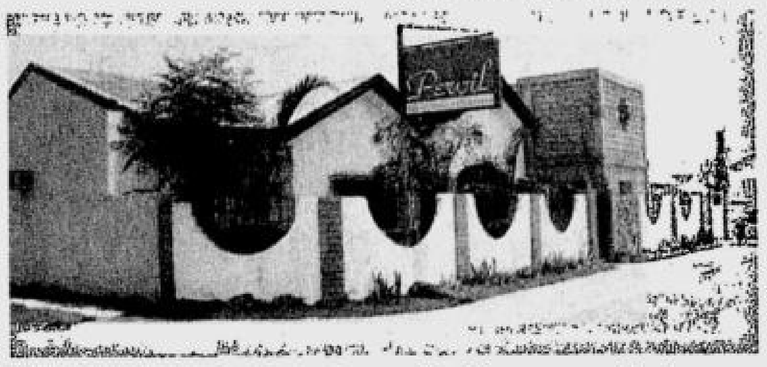
"Customers find that what we are saying about our product is true. No one has complained about its negative effect," she says.

But she says the success of her product prompted others to produce imitations, also bearing the "Magic Cream" brand, which appeared in Metro Manila. She says it pained her that some of those involved in her early operations were involved in producing the imitation products.

"They were cheap imitations of our product. Complaints about their ill effects to users spread. It became a subject of a television program," she says.

To clear the confusion, Villanueva says she called up the TV

OFW/B2-7



PERVIL Cosmetics Philippines' expanding laboratory and business office in Cabanatuan City

Companies cash in on pet travel boom

NEW YORK—From portable potty turf to disposable kitty litter boxes and pet passports, the growing number of traveling pets —estimated at 20 million last year—has spawned an industry dedicated to making the lives of road-weary animals a little easier.

Spill-free water gadgets, car booster seats and freeze dried pure organ meat are also among the hot-selling products fueling the booming travel segment in the $36 billion pet industry.

Even airlines are doing their part, enticing customers with frequent flier pet programs that allow animals to earn miles toward free flights.

"Pets are no longer pets. They're extensions of the family.

Instead of leaving them at home during a vacation, now it's fun to take Fifi, Fido and Fluffy with you," said Bob Vetere, managing director of the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association Inc., a Greenwich, Connecticut-based trade group.

"That, in turn, has fueled the growth of companies totally dedicating themselves to pet mobility," he said.

One of those companies is PETaPOTTY, which sells portable turf patches with drainage space underneath. The lawn toilets are made to look like a patch of grass so tempting that even the strongest-willed canines may find it difficult to resist.

PETaPOTTY tripled sales to $230,000 last year and expects to pull in $600,000 this year, said owner Brandon Hochman, 32, a former professional snow boarder from Los Angeles.

Helping fuel demand are pet owners who put the product in cars, recreational vehicles and airplane crates, he said.

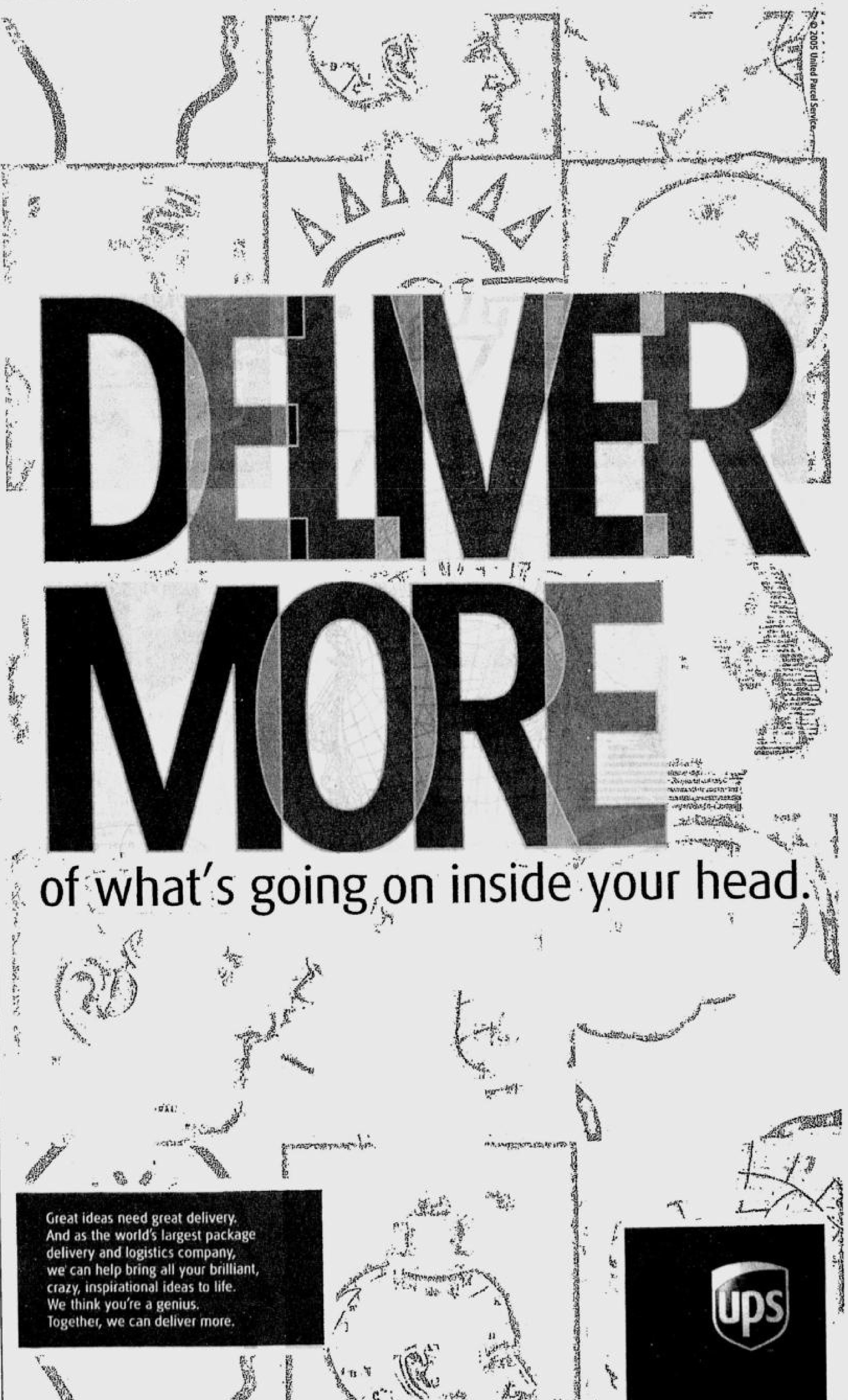
Sylvia Pickett, co-founder of Global Pet Products, is having similar success with her doggie car seat business, an endeavor that "took off like you wouldn't believe," she said.

The idea for the seat, which also keeps upholstery free of hair and dirt, came to Pickett when she almost had a car accident while driving with her Shih Tzu, Tashi, in her lap.

"People are constantly bringing their pets with them," said Gregg Oehler, publisher of New York Dog Magazine. "I get calls every day from advertisers who have travel as part of their pet product mix."

The pet travel craze has prompted hotels to offer pet-friendly perks like menus, daycare and playgrounds, the way hotels became kid-friendly a generation ago, Oehler said.

Reuters



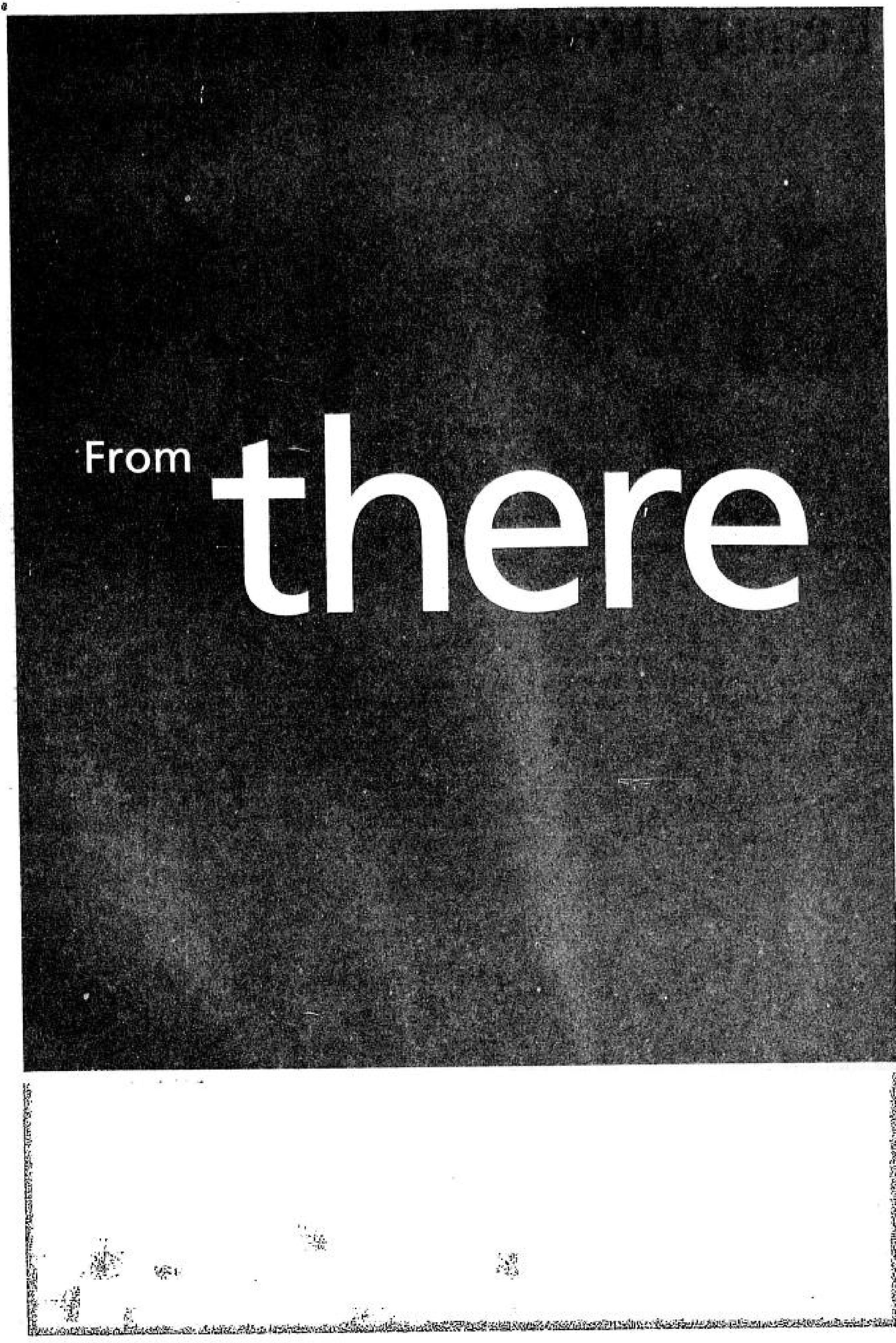
DELIVER MORE
of what's going on inside your head.

Great ideas need great delivery.
And as the world's largest package delivery and logistics company, we can help bring all your brilliant, crazy, inspirational ideas to life.
We think you're a genius.
Together, we can deliver more.

www.ups.com/delivermore

ups
Deliver more

© 2005 United Parcel Service



LEGEND Villas prefers to call itself a "hometel," a home away from home. PHOTOS BY JEROME DUMLAO

Flagship Legend hotel turns over new leaf

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IT IS never too late to turn over a new leaf.

Wyden King proves it, and so does his family's Legend Hotel, which is now known as Legend Villas.

King surrendered his life to God after years of living it up, and that change not only affected his personal life, it also spilled over to business.

That change is best reflected in Legend Villas, which has been transformed from a hotel that looks more like a bigger and more upscale Victoria Court into a Filipiniana-inspired hotel that boasts the best in Filipino hospitality.

Wyden's daughter Ginger King-Villavicencio, general manager of Legend Villas, tells Business Monday that the renovation started about three years ago with just the rooms.

"At first we thought of just changing the rooms. Then we said, if we will change the rooms, might as well change the facade. When that was finished, we went on to renovate the lobby. Now we have changed almost everything and we are even putting up new function rooms to accommodate the growing demand," Villavicencio says.

Villavicencio says Legend Villas is different from the other hotels because it is not a multi-story building like other hotels, but a sprawling development that feels more like townhouses.

The design was also uniquely Filipino. The rooms have parquet floors, instead of carpets. And wood is used throughout the hotel, with craftsmen brought in from Vigan to do the chairs, tables and the architectural details.

But more than the architecture, Villavicencio says the renovation also covered a change in the way guests are treated and served.

"We wanted a truly Filipino brand of service. That starts from our people's uniforms to the way our people greet our guests with a Magandang Umaga po. We wanted to provide an old world charm to our hotel and make our guests feel that they are visiting a typical Filipino house," Villavicencio says.

A visit is never complete without food, and Villavicencio is proud to say that all the chefs of the hotel are Filipinos, serving the hotel's equivalent of fresh, home cooked meals.

"We also want to show that Filipinos are world class. We do not need to hire expatriates to run the hotel," she says.

Legend Villas, the flagship of the Legend properties that include the Legend Hotel Palawan, Legend Manor in Pasay, Kabayan Hotel in Cubao and Pasay, will be formally relaunched in July.

WOODEN accents executed by carpenters from Vigan are found throughout hotel

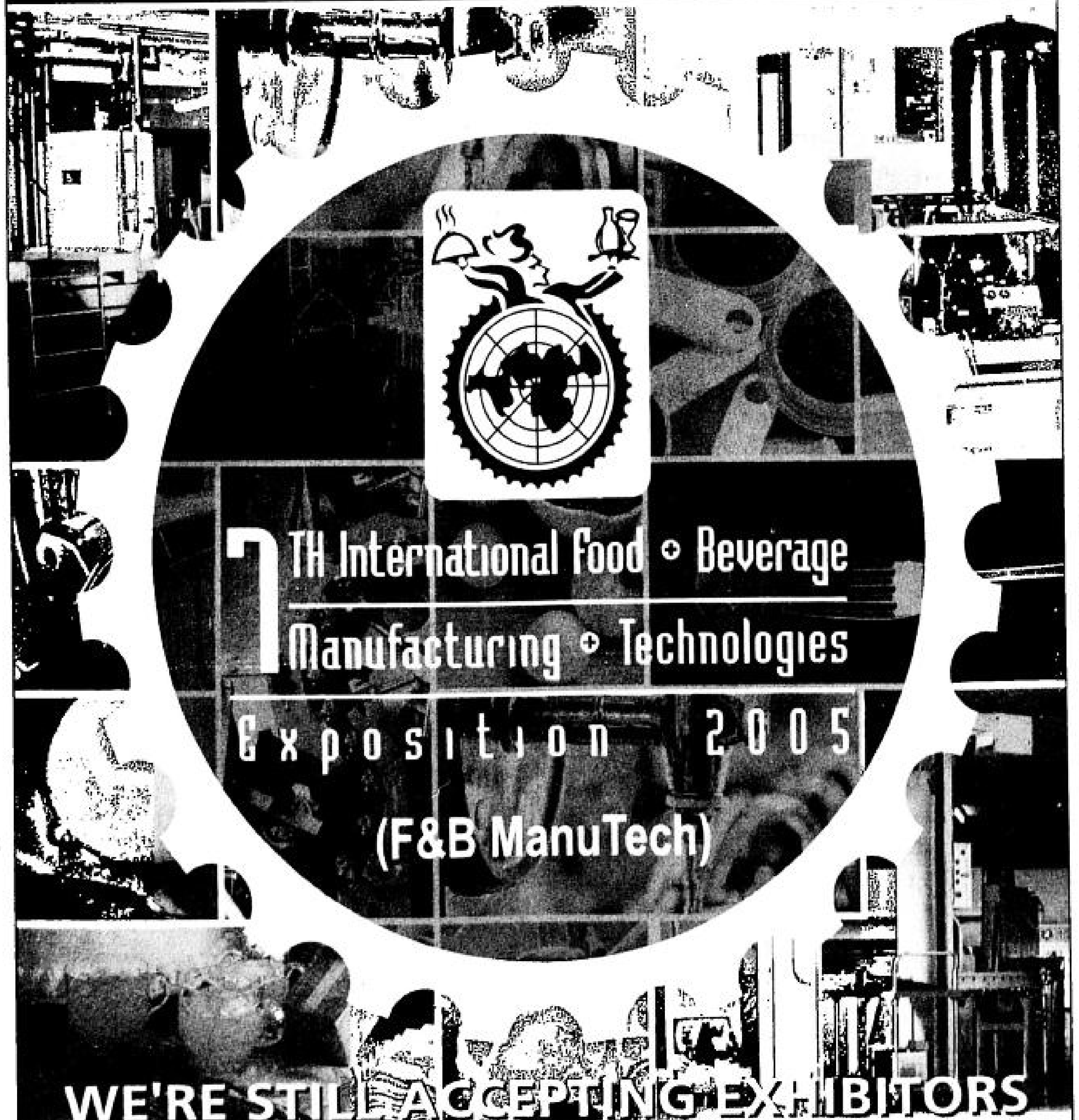
FILIPINO hospitality is felt from the time a guest enters the hotel

LEGEND Villas' rooms have parquet floors, not carpets

LEGEND Villas' suites are designed like townhouses

THE FLAGSHIP hotel offers a complete line of business equipment for clients

A Trade Convention and Exhibition for F&B Manufacturing and Technologies-Intensive Companies


7TH International Food • Beverage Manufacturing • Technologies Exposition 2005
(F&B ManuTech)
WE'RE STILL ACCEPTING EXHIBITORS

22-24 June 2005 ▪ PICC Forum, Manila, Phils ▪ 10am-6pm

TEL (632) 687.0654, 687.2955 TELEFAX (632) 687.0604 EMAIL cut@pacific.net.ph

ORGANIZED BY
TIME FOUNDATION, INC.

MEDIA PARTNERS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
THE POST

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM PROVIDER
BCS SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGIES INC.

www.foodandbeverage-manutech.com

Review for realty broker's licensure exam set

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry (DTI), through the Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection has scheduled another licensure examination for real estate brokers on May 29, 2005. Successful examinees will qualify for licensing as real estate brokers.

In this regard, Urban Institute of Real Estate released today the schedule of its upcoming Comprehensive Real Estate Seminar (CRES) and review that will be taken for a complete preparation for the DTI-supervised broker's licensure examination. The Saturday Section is scheduled on April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14 and 21, from 1:15 to 6:45 p.m. while the Tuesday Section will be on April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17 and 24, same time. All sessions will be held at the Max's Restaurant, Glorietta 2, Park Square Drive corner Theater Dr., Ayala Center, Makati City. Both section includes a general review on the last day.

The CRES will cover the following topics: DTI Rules and Regulations, Real Estate Finance, Eco. & Accounting, National Code of Ethics, Subdivision Development, Problems on Subdivision Development, Real Estate Appraisal, Real Estate Assessment, Real Estate Taxation, Taxation, Problem Solving with E-VAT, Site Verification and Survey, Legal Aspects of Sale, Mortgage and Lease, Fundamentals of Property Ownership, Guide on Pag-Ibig Housing Loans, CARL with RA 7279(UDHA), HLURB Rules with Ecology and Zoning, Condominium Concepts, Documentation and Registration, and Real Estate Brokerage Practice.

Lawyer Dennis Tablizo, a recognized legal expert on land laws, and Enrico S. Cruz, the same team that produced a record passing rate of 92 percent, will lead experts and authorities in their respective field on the lectures on subjects prescribed by DTI engineer Cruz, a licensed real estate consultant.

For registration or more information, interested parties may call tel. no. 681-0928 or text CP no. 0916-426-9174 or e-mail urbanet@pacific.net.ph.

Non-life insurance summit slated

A ONE-day conference to discuss the vital issues covering the non-life sector of the insurance industry will be held on April 27, 2005, at the Makati Shangri-La in Makati City.

The summit is organized by Insurance Philippines and sponsored principally by Swiss Reinsurance Company, the second largest global reinsurer and supported by Crawford & Company, Philippine Charter Insurance Company and Philippine Accident Managers, Inc., (Pami). The theme of the summit is "Confronting Today's Risks - Natural and Man-made" and is endorsed by the Insurance Commission, the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (Pira); the Philippine Insurers Club and the Society of Underwriters (SOUND).

Topics include insurance marketing in a volatile environment; risk management in non-life underwriting; update on the Philippine Reinsurance Market; Reinsurance trends in the Asia-Pacific Region; Trends in Claims Adjustment and Management; and Underwriting of Natural Hazards.

Insurance Commissioner Benjamin Santos will open the summit. For inquiries and reservations, please contact the summit secretariat at 5215444, 5260147 and 5251070. Fax no. 5260143 and 5260147.

OFW goes home . . .

From page B2-5

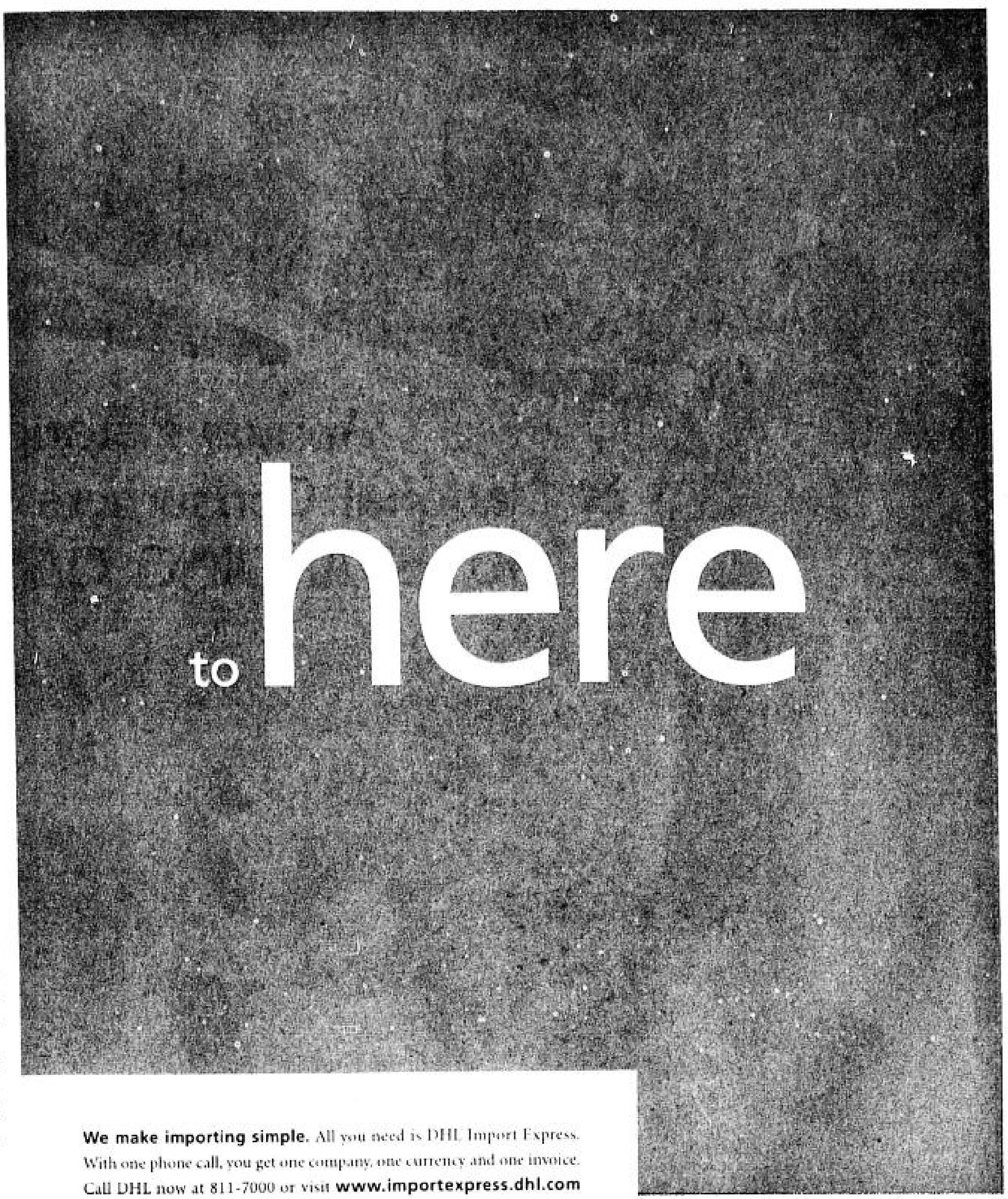
station and invited the program host and crew to visit her laboratory and document the procedures in producing her product.

Her "Magic Cream" product (which comes in 60, 20 and 15- gram bottles) now sports the company's name "Pervil" to guide consumers. These items are sold by agents for P850, P380 and P300, respectively, or higher.

Villanueva says her main concern is to increase production to fill up orders. She has set up an office in Metro Manila and is now strengthening their regional offices.

She says there are plans to expand their laboratory and penetrate markets in the United States, Hawaii, Guam, Canada, England, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and China. Her customers in Saudi Arabia introduced her product to these countries.

"I am also particularly glad that many people find a very encouraging source of livelihood from my company and products," she said.


to here

We make importing simple. All you need is DHL Import Express. With one phone call, you get one company, one currency and one invoice. Call DHL now at 811-7000 or visit www.importexpress.dhl.com

Deutsche Post World Net
MAIL EXPRESS LOGISTICS FINANCE

DHL

EXTENDED TO APRIL 30, 2005**

39,900 DP SWEET SUMMER DEAL ON A SENTRA GS A/T!

JAPAN'S No. 1 SUV IS NOW THE PHILIPPINES' SUV OF THE YEAR!*

Drive home the TRULY all-conquering X-TRAIL and the Stronger, Smarter, Sexier Sentra at our best rates yet!

PROMO PERIOD FROM MARCH 9 TO APRIL 30, 2005 • Subject to Bank Approval • See flyers for details

**Approved by DTI-NCR *Based on Japan Automobile Manufacturer's Association 2004

2004 CAR OF THE YEAR
SUV Lite Category
1st PHILIPPINE CAR OF THE YEAR AWARDS
Car Awards Group, Inc.

C!
BEST COMPACT SUV OF THE YEAR
February 2005 Issue

NO.1 IN SALES
June to December 2004
CAMPI

AS LOW AS 111,000 DOWNPAYMENT X-TRAIL 4x2
For Nissan X-TRAIL Limited Edition

AS LOW AS 39,900 DP Sentra 1.6 GS A/T

AS LOW AS 45,400 DP Sentra 180 GT

72 months at 50% DP 5,200/mo. Sentra 1.3 GX M/T

ZERO Interest for the first 24 months for the Sentra 180 GT & 1.6 GS A/T

72 months at 50% DP 10,600 per month X-TRAIL 4x2

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1315, Series of 2005

NISSAN

Assembled and distributed by
NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC.
visit www.nissan.com.ph

METRO MANILA
NISSAN GALLERY QUEZON AVENUE
Tel Nos. 731-5308, 742-4145
MANTRADE DEV'T CORP.
Tel Nos. 843 3316 to 23
NISSAN WESTGATE ALABANG
Tel. Nos. 772-1826 to 30, 775-0236/39
NISSAN COMMONWEALTH
Tel Nos. 932-0428, 932-4001
NISSAN MANILA
Tel. Nos. 251-9060 to 63
NISSAN GALLERY ORTIGAS
Tel Nos. 635-5688, 438-4539
NISSAN NORTH EDSA (Balintawak)
Tel. Nos. 330-5331 to 60, 455-8960
NISSAN U.N. AVE., MANILA
Tel. Nos. 400-1020, 400-2177

LUZON
NISSAN NAGA
Tel. Nos. (054) 472-3577 to 78
NISSAN PAMPANGA
Tel. Nos. (045) 961-5481, (045) 961-5462
NISSAN SOUTHWOODS
Tel. Nos. (02) 843-1604, (02) 809-2400 to 02
ROYCE MOTOR CENTER
Tel. Nos (044) 463-7210 to 12,
SANTIAGO CITY
Tel. No. (078) 682-8701, (078) 682-8707
PAMPANGA
Tel. Nos. (045) 961-7773 to 74

VISAYAS
NISSAN BACOLOD
Tel Nos. (034) 434-6051, 435-1102
NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Tel Nos (032) 346-0350, 346-8422 to 25
NISSAN ILOILO (S &J Motors)
Tel. Nos. (033) 320-4051 to 53

MINDANAO
NISSAN CAGAYAN DE ORO
Tel. Nos. (088)858-3002, (08822)728688
BUTUAN
Tel. Nos. (085) 815-3164, 342-7210
NISSAN DAVAO
Tel. Nos. (082) 221-1914 to 18, (082) 227-6712
GENERAL SANTOS
Tel. No. (083) 553-5228

Khaos

Super Turbo Charger

Annual Parangal ng Bayan & National Consumers Excellence Awards for "OUTSTANDING GAS SAVING DEVICE"

The so-called Super Turbo Charger which is intended for vehicles

Congratulations

to our beloved

PABLO "Mr. Khaos" PLANAS

Promo Price Up to JUNE 2005 ONLY!!!

Present Km /Ltr. Consumption	Estimated Gas Savings Percentage in Liters				
	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%
5 km / Ltr.	⑳	40	60	80	100
6 km / Ltr.	17	33	50	67	83
7 km / Ltr.	14	29	43	57	71

Sample Computation: 1,000 kms ÷ 5 km / Ltr = 200 Liters x 10% = ⑳ Liters

- Based on monthly driving distance of 1,000 kms
- Savings Computations are based on the current consumption (km / liter)
- Additional Liters as per % Savings should be realized after installation of Khaos
- Savings may vary depending on the condition of the engine and driving habits

AUTHORIZED DEALERS:

NCR

MANILA
*AUTO ZONE
(02) 562-6862

TONDO
#2828 J.Abad Santos Ave.,
(02) 741-1866 ;361-5942
*Wilson & Jackson Automotive Repair Shop
(Jacinto Gan Jr.)

MALATE
#1924 D. Ma. Orosa St.,
(LTO South Mla, District Office)
(02) 523-0570 ;0927-5509075
*Chrismarika Sytem Enterprises
(Augusto Cote/Roella Cote)

STA MESA
#3991 Ramon Magsaysay Blvd.,
(02) 715-5891 ;713-4373
*Mileage Solution, Inc.
(Renato Hernandez)

-#178 Dalisay St. Bacood Sta Mesa
(02) 716-6886 ;716-6442
*Arbee Marketing
(Rommel Bermejo)

MAKATI
GLOBAL CITY
Unit 10 Karport Car Plaza 32nd St. Fort Bonifacio Global City Taguig.
(02) 816-1651 ;816-0801
*AUTO ZONE (Global City)
(02) 893-3993
*AUTO ZONE
Look for Josie Abuan
LIBIS
(02) 638-6941
*AUTO ZONE

BUENDIA
#63 Buendia Ave. Makati City
(Autoland)
Cellphone # : (02) 889-7221
Look for Ariel

PASONG TAMO
(02) 812-0650
*AUTO ZONE

La Puerza Bldg. #2241 Don Chino Roces Ave
Cor Sablo St. Makati
(02) 752-4450 to 54 ;893-7530
*Ultra Car Detailing / Ultra Bykes Network
(Aristeo Guevarra / Paolo Arespacochaga)

VITO CRUZ
#1362 B. Zobel Roxas St. cor, Vito Cruz
(02) 589-1043 ; 0918-9211949
*Reynaldos / Wesley Service Center.
(Bong Pangan / Buboy Lavandero)

HERNANDEZ
0921-5363998
*Maxinvent Trading Corp.
(Peter Suchianco)

PASAY
TAFT AVE.
#2766 Taft Ave. Pasay City
(02) 831-1757 ;831-4192
*European Auto Supply
(Pablo Tan)

#2710 Taft Ave. Pasay City
(02) 834-6928 ;834-5732
*Automoto Parts
(Roberto Tan)

QUEZON CITY
ARANETA
#12 Auto Centro Araneta Center Cubao Q.C (near alimall)
(02) 439-4801 ;912-5431
*Allkars
(Manuel Co)

BANAWE
#158MR2 cor. Kaliraya St. Banawe Q.C
(02) 712-7809 ;0920-8962773
*A27 Car Accessories
(Jess M. Vergara)

EDSA
Central Terminal Brgy. Bagong Pag-asa, North Triangle, Edsa Quezon City
Cellphone # : 0918-2868211
Look for Daisy

E.RODRIGUEZ
#1554 E. Rod. Sr. St. Cubao Q.C
(02) 721-7284 ;0917-8259017
*HOTWHEELS Autobody Specialist
(Patrick Lim/Edna)

KATIPUNAN
Katipunan Ave.
Cor Aurora Blvd. Q,C
(02) 436-6892 ;0917-8908809
*Firefly Hill Enterprises / Petron Service Station
(Tj Benitez)

MURPHY
7 Forth Camarilla St. Murphy Q.C
0917-8192123 ;0927-3881638
*Reambillo Gen. Merch.
(Odee Reambillo)

SIKATUNA
#128 V.Luna Ext. Sikatuna Village
(02) 436-3624 ;0917-3749072
*Sikatuna Motorshop
(Ojdeto "Ogie" E. Amada)

COMMONWEALTH
Commonwealth Ave.
Cor. Road 44
(Before Ever Commonwealth)
(02) 434-3658 ;928-3017
*Car Economics, Inc
(Mon / Noel / Myrna)

New Capitol Estate Commonwealth
(02) 430-2558 ;0919-5623099
*Hardz'Tik
(Harold Dela Paz)

V.LUNA
#12 Maginoo St V.Luna Q.C
(02) 434-7150 ;411-6122
*RD Enterprises
(Virgilio A. Domingo)

NOVALICHES
ZABARTE
#28 Zabarte Road Novaliches Q.C
(02) 418-8342 ;0918-2607097
*Ellar's Motors
(Henry Obiasca /Larry Sarmiento)

CALOOCAN
CAMARIN
Hillcrest Vill. Camarin Rd. Cal. City
(02) 460-4919 ;0918-6739654
*kenjess Trading
(Jessie Geraldizo)

MALABON
GOV. PASCUAL ST.
2nd /Flr LTO Bldg. Gov Pascual St.
(02) 448-2251 ; 447-3402
*Gastipid Enterprises
(Don Paez / Boyet

VALENZUELA
MAYSAN Road
2/F Sercon Bldg. Maysan Road Expo
Commercial Center
(02) 294-3310 ;0917-9429479
*Eisen Marketing
(Chey Concepcion)

SAN JUAN
Unit 305 LM Bldg. F. Blumentrit St.
(Top of Maybank Bldg.)
(02) 727-4257 ;0927-5219694
*Dovenfro' Ent.
(David Candola /Lino Jamandron)

#172 A.Mabini St. Brgy Addition Hills
(02) 727-7201 to 04
Fax # 727-7207
*Armark International Corp.
(Kits Aragon)

#467 Gen Lim, Cor Grant St.
Little Baguio
(02) 727-8346
*Ultra Car Detailing / Ultra Bykes Network
(Aristeo Guevarra / Paolo Arespacochaga)

MANDALUYONG
BRGY PLAINVIEW
#145 San Francisco St. Brgy Plainview
(02) 746-4406 ;0918-9211949
*JSP Car Clinic
(Bong Pangan / Buboy Lavandero)

#313 Maysilo St. Plainview
Mandaluyong City
(02) 534-5941 / 0917-8732170 / 0916-7710082
*HILO Auto Repair Shop
(Leonardo M. Magbag)

TAGUIG
BICUTAN
Blk 9, Lot 2, Ph2 E.P Village
Western Bicutan
(02) 935-9449 ; 837-2782
*RM Sison Commercial
(Rolly Sison)

PASIG
SHAW BLVD.
Freemont Arcade # 11 Shaw Blvd. Pasig
(02) 633-0008 ;671-5010
*Olympex Marketing Corp.
(CJ Dayrit)

#4 Brixton St. Kapitolyo, Pasig City
(02) 719-3966 / 0917-9041722
*Barracuda Trading
(Mar A. Miguel)

GUADALUPE
#2024 Nuestra Senora De Del Carmen St
(02) 751-0445 ; 0290-9076076
*GREENMYLE Auto Parts & Services
(Dax Gazmin)

ORTIGAS
AUTOCAMP # 100 Ortigas Ave.,
Brgy. Ugong Pasig City
Hotlines : (02) 636-0589
0910-6404715 / 0919-4391815
0919-3841225
Look for Cristy

MARIKINA
STA ELENA
#184 Gil Fernando Ave. Sta Elena
(02) 681-6705
*Maci Auto-Hub
(Miguel Antonio Jao)

ANTIPOLO
NAYONG SILANGAN
#29 Langka Rd. Nayong Silangan Antipolo
(02) 696-1978 ;0919-2390771
*Wen & Cher Marketing
(Nora Sarcia)

ANTIPOLO CITY
Brgy San Roque
Circomferential Rd.
(02) 630-4558 ; 0927-418-3602
*GLS auto parts & Accessories
(Wendell Serrato)

CAINTA
001 Victoria Ave. Brgy San Juan, Cainta Rizal
(02) 656-6976 ;0918-4287383
*S DE G Machine Shop Motor & Iron Works
(Severino De Guzman)

SUCAT
#8449-E Prudential Bank Bldg.
Dr. A Santos Ave. Paranaque City
Cellphone # ; 0927-9105879 /
0922-8118478 0920-3820094
Look for Magnifico

#8178 Doc A Santos Ave. Sn Dionisio Paranaque
(02) 826-0067 ; 0916-3481714
*Nile Design & Logistics Corp.
(Romano Sablay)

LAS PINAS CITY
Km 18 Alabang Zapote Rd.
Pamplona
(02) 806-2228 ;0927-711-2775
*BYGS TRADING
(Bert/Yolly /Paul)

ALABANG
Alabang Town Center
Alabang Auto Exchange
Upper Deck 1 Cor., Madrigal Ave. Muntinlupa
Hotlines : (02) 560-2176 / 560-2273
0922-8118478 / 0920-3820094
Look for Adrian

SOUTH LUZON

CAVITE
BACOOR
Lot 44 lily St, Ph3 Citihomes subd, Molino 4
(046) 517-7587 ;0920-6146996
*New Creation Enterprises
(Desi Padua)

SILANG
#310 J.P Rizal St, Silang Cavite
#201 Biga Silang Cavite
(046)414-0272 ;865-0178;
0917-3266731
*Silang KSTC / Zacarias Trading
(Cesar Zacarias)

LAGUNA
CALAMBA CITY
Southern Tagalog Driving School
Hectan Commercial Complex
Halang,
(049) 545-0988;0917-5012646
*Jonette's Gen Mdse.
(Christopher Natividad/Ben Arnold Mendoza)

SAN PABLO
#136 Del Remedio, San Pablo City
(049) 562-4199 ;0919-5525741
*Celino Motors /
Dina's Auto Repair Shop
(Edwin Go)

SAN PEDRO
14 Pacita Ave Complex 1 San
(02) 529-4164 / 0917-4781792
*Tyrerack Tire & Battery Center
(Rani Velardo)

BINAN
NEPA Hi-way San Vicente Binan
(049) 411-6551 ;0927-8299038
*LE OCAMPO KSTC
Autoparts Supply
(Elvira Ocampo)

STA ROSA
Paseo De Sta Rosa
Country Market Stall #118
0916-4609674 ;0922-5345363
*Z Transport Services
(Rufino Rivera)

CABUYAO
#195 National Road, Bgy. Pulo
(049) 531-7989 ;0919-4568783
*MDGIN TRADING
(Marc Ginez)

BATANGAS
CANLAPAN
#89 P. Canlapan Batangas City
(043)723-3127 ;0918-5069858
*General Motors
(Manuel A. Co)

LIPA CITY
(043) 312-6769 ;0919-4605627
(Ferdie Cusio)

ALBAY
LEGASPI CITY
#408 Rizal Ave. Cabagan
(052) 480-5033 ;480-5043
*Lisam Goodyear Servitek
(Henry Obiasca / Leo Soriano)

CAMARINES SUR
NAGA CITY
#39 Concepcion Grande, Naga City
(054) 472-3577 to 79
*Lisam Nissan Cars/Goodyear Servitek
(Henry Obiasca / Lea Soriano)

QUEZON PROVINCE
SARIAYA
Pedro C. Andal Sr. Compound
Maharlika Hi-way
Brgy. Conception Uno Sariaya
(042) 585-8060 ; 0920-6707953
*Andal Autowerke
(Renmin Andal)

ORIENTAL MINDORO
CALAPAN CITY
Tawiran Calapan City Orr. Mindoro
(043) 2882167 ; 0917-7916199
*CGA Trading
(Cpt. Carlos Aguba)

PALAWAN
PUERTO PRINCESA
Tangay Road Libis San Pedro,
Puerto Princesa
0919-8305654
*ANGGEK Trading & Construction
(Aristedes C. Rodriguez Jr.)

NORTH LUZON

BULACAN
MEYCAUYAN
#2 Corinthian St. 3-D Sto Nino, Meycauyan
(044) 695-2256 ;0915-3750861
*Wenjon Trading
(Zenaida Cruz)

SAN JOSE
0926-2713918 ;0921-3083267
*Renegade Enterprises
(Ding Lado)

PAMPANGA
SAN FERNANDO
San Agustin Mc. Arthur Hi-way near Honda cars
0917-8902582 ;0917-5762787
*Yodisher Trading
(Isaias Acuzar)

GUAGUA
San Pedro Guagua, Pampanga
(045) 900-0591 ;0918-9373646
*MD Fernando & Gen Merchandise
(Yolanda Fernando)

BATAAN
ALA-ULI
#471 Roman Super Hi-way crossing Ala-Uli Pilar Bataan (near Total Gas Station
0927-6134686 ;0920-5060172
0920-2672842
*3 "R"
(Ruben Acuzar)

NUEVA ECIJA
CABANATUAN
-Bantug Norte ,Cabanatuan City
Infront of Payawal Advertising
-Valle Cruz Cabanatuan City
0919-8552728 ; 0915-6222220
*A Four Marketing
(Fred De Guzman)

MUNOZ
D. Delos Santos St. Munoz
(044) 456-5552 ;0917-5386020
* Mendoza Motorcycle & Bicycle Parts
(Homer Nantes / Beth)

POBLACION
Padre Garcia Poblacion
(043)312-1418 ;0917-3912930
*Reynaldos's Motor Works
(Francisco Bacani/Demi Santos)

ANGELES
#77 Santo Entiero St, Brgy Sto Cristo Angeles City
(045) 887-4996 ;0916-5034138
*ENVI Enterprises
(Mrs. Cila Rivera)

TARLAC
San Rafael, Tarlac City
0920-910-6640 ; 0918-2978979
*Vehicular Filsafe
(Nick Rivera)

PANGASINAN
DAGUPAN CITY
Donato Bldg A.B Fernandez East Avenue,
(075) 523-0647 ;0920-909-9776
*NP Salinas Enterprises
(Jonas Salinas)

LA UNION
SAN FERNANDO
#19 Madayegdeg Nat'l Hi-way San
(072) 700-0427 ;0918-6227444;0921-7512055
*F19 Auto Accessories & Services
(Marvin Laroco)

BAGUIO CITY
MARCOS HI-WAY
-Gas Express, cor chapiz village, Marcos Hi-way,
(074) 446-9006 ;0928-4066480;
0920-5073262
*NINE Auto Accessories & Services
(Edgar Ortega)

IRISAN
Purok 13, km6, Apugan Irisan
Baguio City
(074) 446-1884 ;0917-786-8885
*SirJo Enterprises
(Atty Esteban /Joey Disu)

ISABELA
CAUYAN
Mac Carwash Cauyan
(078) 652-1345
*RD Enterprises
(Virgilio A Domingo)

TUGUEGARAO
CAGAYAN VALLEY
#29 Diversion Road, San Gabriel
Tuguegarao City
0920-8328973 ; 0918-3730439
*Mallabo Khaos Enterprises
(Nellie Mallabo)

TUGUEGARAO CITY
Penque, National Hi-way
Tuguegarao City
0917-5781501 ; 0917-5782348
*RJ Khaos Enterprises
(Rabbi James Gannaban)

VISAYAS

CEBU
BANILAD ROAD
Tinoy Bldg. Corner Paradise Village
Banilad Road,Cebu City
(032) 231-7157 / 0917-8903967

AYALA CENTER
Basement Ayala Center Cebu City
(032) 231-4150
*CFG TRADING
(Jun Esguerra)

NEGROS ORIENTAL
BACOLOD CITY
#114 Lacson St. Cor, Roxas
(034) 433-0808 ; 0917-7870358
*FILCOQ MARKETING CORP.
(Victor Puey)

MINDANAO

CAGAYAN DE ORO
POBLACION
North Poblacion, Medina Misamis Oriental
(088) 331-2039 ;0919-759-6966
*5JP's Automotive Enterprises
(Jojo Pupos)

BULUA
Infront of Rural Transit garage, highway
Bulua, Cagayan De Oro
(088) 350-1855 ;(0882) 2735871
*Trust World Trading
(Roberto Lacdoo)

DAVAO
QUIMPO Boulevard
*Infront of SM, beside Motor City
(082) 298-3758 ; 0917-5344200
*Fuel Force Automotive
(Joseph Andrew Dela Serna)

GENSAN
QUIRINO
JP Laurel St. East St. Cor Quirino St
(083) 301-3110 ;0919-7156876
*Jobimbo Marketing
(Jose Calub)

ILIGAN
TUBOD
#0051 Purok Bagong Silang Tubod, Iligan City
(063) 223-3764 ; 0917-3385169
*Trust World Trading / Ricaza Trading
(Mayolito Ricaza)

Iligan Engineering Corporation
Tubod Hi-way, Iligan City
(063) 221-5291 ; 0917-6991423
*CODD Marketing
(Max Paran)
SOON TO OPEN

ZAMBOANGA
GOV. CAMINS
Gov Camins Zamboanga City
(062) 990-4474 ;0921-9884766
*Wil Tan Marketing
(Metro Zamboanga Repair Shop)
(Willy Tan)

SURIGAO DEL NORTE
SURIGAO CITY
Km 3 Surigao City
(086) 231-7354 ;232-6468
*Dumlao Const.
(Andoni / Pablo)

INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

AUSTRALIA
CANADA
EGYPT
HUNGARY
INDIA
INDONESIA
KOREA
LEBANON
MARIANA ISLANDS
SAUDI ARABIA
SOUTH AFRICA
SPAIN
SWITZERLAND
U A E

Inventionhaus International Corp.

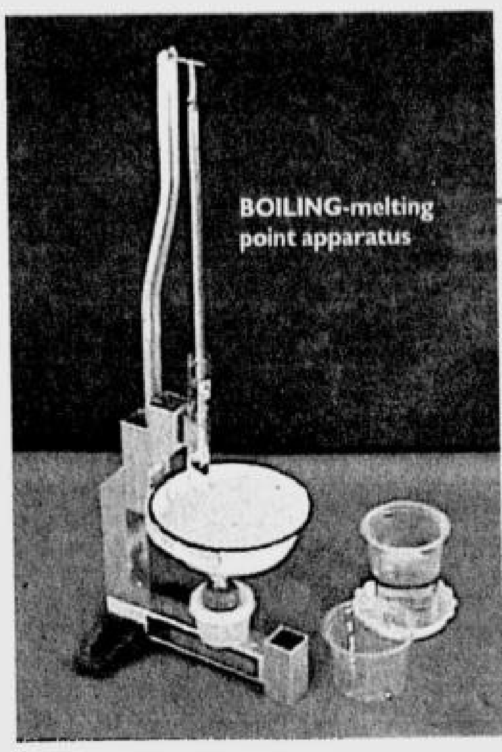
An affiliate of New San Jose Builders, Inc.
Grd. Flr. President Tower, #81 Timog Ave., Quezon City

CUSTOMER SERVICE
920-0090
E-MAIL: info@khaos.ph / info@khaos.com.ph

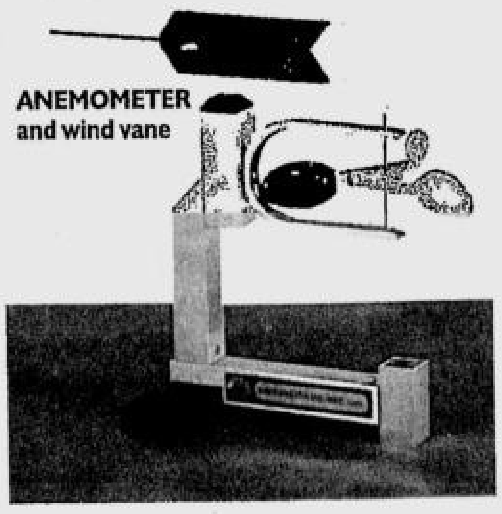
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

BUSINESS *Monday*

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**



BOILING-melting point apparatus



ANEMOMETER and wind vane

Teacher creates tools to make teaching easier

By Russell Arador
PDI Central Luzon Desk

TARLAC CITY—Why is it that people on roller coasters do not plunge to their death even when they turn upside down?

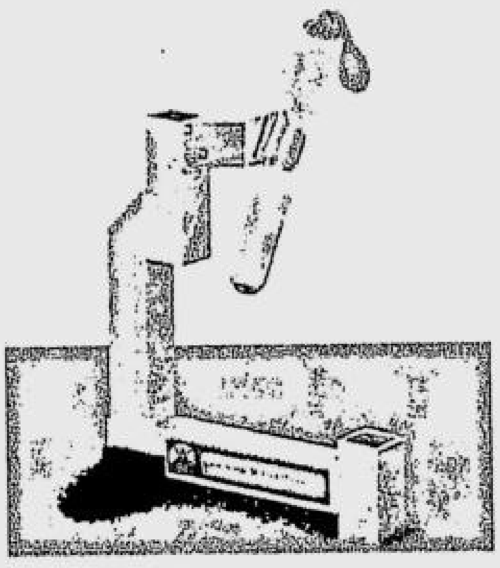
If you still remember much of your high school physics, you might be able to give the following answer: centrifugal force keeps them pressed against their seats, thus preventing them from falling.

But how do you explain the nature of the centrifugal force to elementary pupils or high school students without boring them?

Or better yet, how do you make the understanding of such a basic, but relatively difficult scientific concept, fun and easy to learn?

Realizing the need by science teachers for new and innovative ways of presenting their lessons without resorting to expensive imported instruments, a former physics and chemistry instructor at the Don Bosco Technical Institute (DBTI) in Tarlac City put up in March 1996 a company that fabricates indigenous science equipment that 'demonstrate and enhance' scientific laws and principles.

A.V. Ideas Resource and Training Center also publishes manuals and books. It also moved on to the development of interactive instructional CD-ROMs known as iTEXT-books.

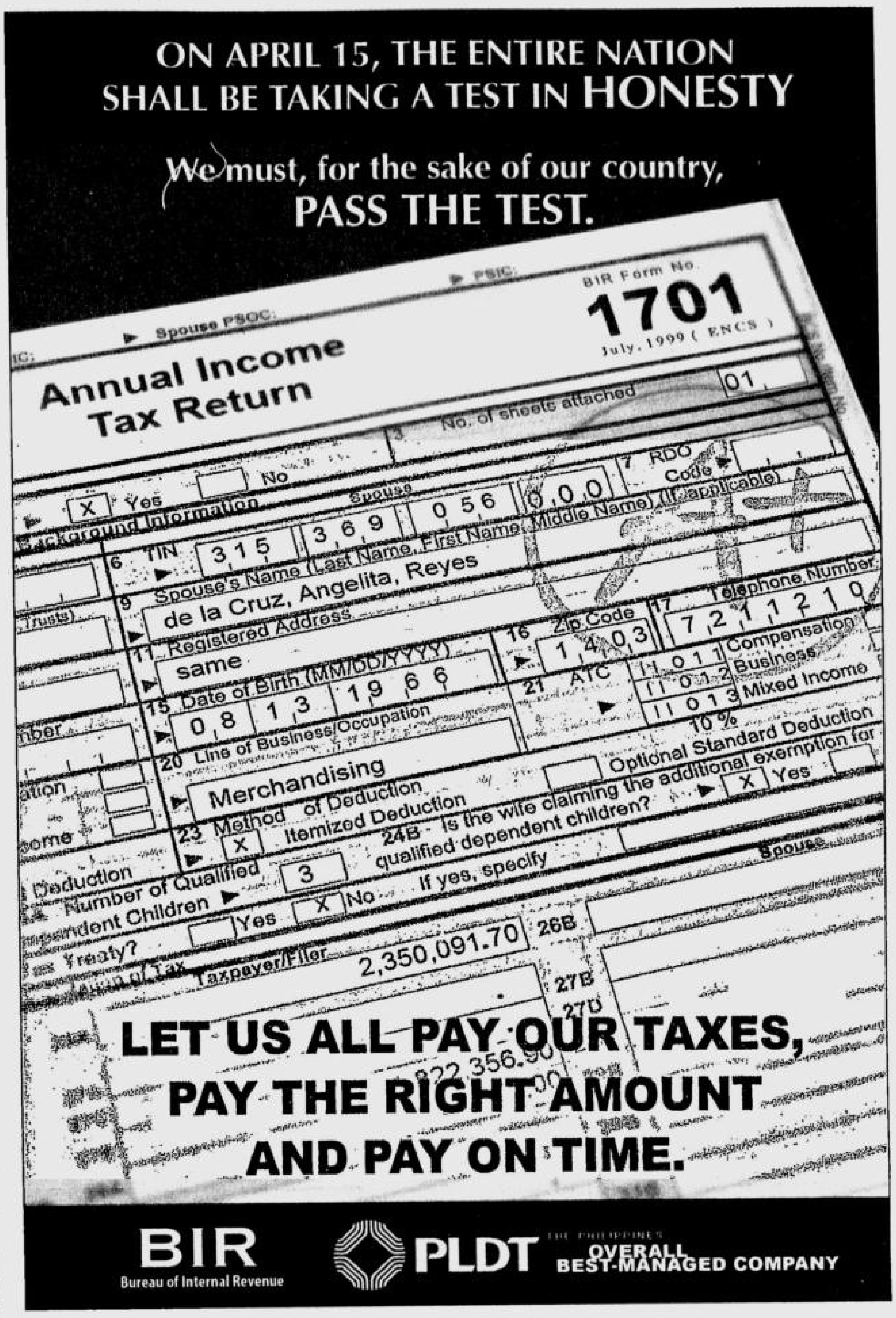


AIR expansion apparatus

Arturo Villegas, A.V. Ideas owner, said that even before he left teaching, he already saw the huge market potential for improvised science equipment.

"There is business in it. At the same time, the business helps teachers," says the 62-year-old inventor who personally trains teachers in

TEACHER/ B3-2



ON APRIL 15, THE ENTIRE NATION
SHALL BE TAKING A TEST IN HONESTY

We must, for the sake of our country,
PASS THE TEST.

BIR Form No.
1701
July, 1999 (ENCS)
Annual Income Tax Return
Spouse PSOC:
PSIC:
No. of sheets attached 01
☒ Yes ☐ No
Background Information
6 TIN 315 369 056 000
7 RDO Code
9 Spouse's Name (Last Name, First Name, Middle Name) (If applicable)
de la Cruz, Angelita, Reyes
11 Registered Address
same
15 Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) 08 13 1966
16 Zip Code 1403
17 Telephone Number 7211210
20 Line of Business/Occupation
Merchandising
21 ATC II 011 Compensation II 012 Business II 013 Mixed Income
23 Method of Deduction ☒ Itemized Deduction ☐ Optional Standard Deduction 10 %
24B Is the wife claiming the additional exemption for qualified dependent children? ☒ Yes
Number of Qualified Dependent Children 3
☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, specify
Taxpayer/Filer 2,350,091.70 26B
Spouse
27B
27D
822,356.90

LET US ALL PAY OUR TAXES,
PAY THE RIGHT AMOUNT
AND PAY ON TIME.

BIR
Bureau of Internal Revenue
PLDT THE PHILIPPINES OVERALL BEST-MANAGED COMPANY

Chevrolet Venture.
First class travel for seven
from only P199,000
down payment*

Or an affordable monthly fee of P11,804

- Free Periodic Maintenance for 2 years or 30,000 kms with parts and labor.
- P20,000 worth of free gas*

*Applies only to the Venture LT Premium. **For 72 months based on 50% down payment for the Venture LT Premium

Contact Chevrolet or GM Autoworld now at 1.800.1888.4646.
PROMO PERIOD. Feb. 22 to March 31, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0953 Series of 2005.
EXTENDED UNTIL APRIL 30, 2005.

I am
CHEVROLET

GM Autoworld MAKATI 867 8183 to 87 / 894 1976 • GM Autoworld QUEZON AVE. 374 1250 to 59 • GM Autoworld SHAW 535.4944 / 533.6375 / 533.1263 / 533.6349 • Chevrolet PASIG 672.1612 to 14 / 672.1486 • Chevrolet ALABANG 771.1206 to 09
Chevrolet NORTH EDSA 374.9992 to 97 / 374.9963 • Chevrolet PAMPANGA (045) 963.3333 / (045) 860.2000 • GM Autoworld CEBU (032) 234.0426 to 29 • Chevrolet DAVAO (082) 300.7777 / (082) 235.3811 • Chevrolet CAGAYAN DE ORO (08822) 722.999 / (088) 857.9999

Bringing fresh fish to the Filipino consumers' grasp

By Christine A. Gaylican

FISH tanks showcasing fresh Lapu-Lapu, seabass and pampano could now be found not only in seafood restaurants but in leading supermarkets and hotels as well.

Bringing the fresh catch from the sea is the new marketing collaboration of fisher folks and aqua feeds manufacturer Santeh Feeds Corp.

The lack of a good distribution systems and post harvest facilities for fish and aquaculture products encouraged Santeh Feeds Corp. and its clients to come up with this new marketing tie-up.

Santeh Feeds company president Philip Ong says this is the first time leading hotels and supermarkets have accepted this fresh marketing concept as they are used to the frozen fish products delivered to them.

"We want to introduce to the Filipino consumers that the fish products they are getting even in supermarkets are really fresh," says Ong. "More importantly we want the fisher folk and aquaculture raisers to have an assured and expanding market."

Ong says that his company is now linking its current roster of aquaculture raisers and fisher folks to supermarket, hotels and restaurants as a bonus with the purchase of their feeds.

"There is no added cost for our customers (fish farmers and raisers). For Santeh, this is a promotion for the fish farmers, who at times have been victimized by unscrupulous traders," he adds.

He notes reaction of the the institutional buyers to having live fish has been favorable.

"Hopefully, the fish farmers and raisers would pick up this marketing tack that we have introduced and allow them to diversify and not to be too dependent on one fish specie as their only product," he relates.

In some provinces, some fisher folks thrived on subsistence farming of bangus and tilapia and have yet to explore raising and selling seabass and pampano that corner the more profitable, high-end market.

Pampano sells at about P350 per kilo in supermarkets.

He shares that some of their clients actually sell 5,000 kilos of pampano a month to selected buyers.

Ong reiterates there is a huge export market for seabass and pampano that Filipinos could tap as the local production and supply chain improves and stabilize.

It has become Ong's personal crusade to assist the fish farmers earn more than their daily livelihood.

Not only is Santeh Feeds assisting fish and aquaculture raisers in their marketing tie-ups, the company also assists first-time raisers in selecting the breed and appropriate technology that would eventually increase production.

The occurrence of fish mortalities in various tilapia farms in Central Luzon brought large losses in the industry during the mid-'90s, primarily due to improper farming practices used by fish farmers.

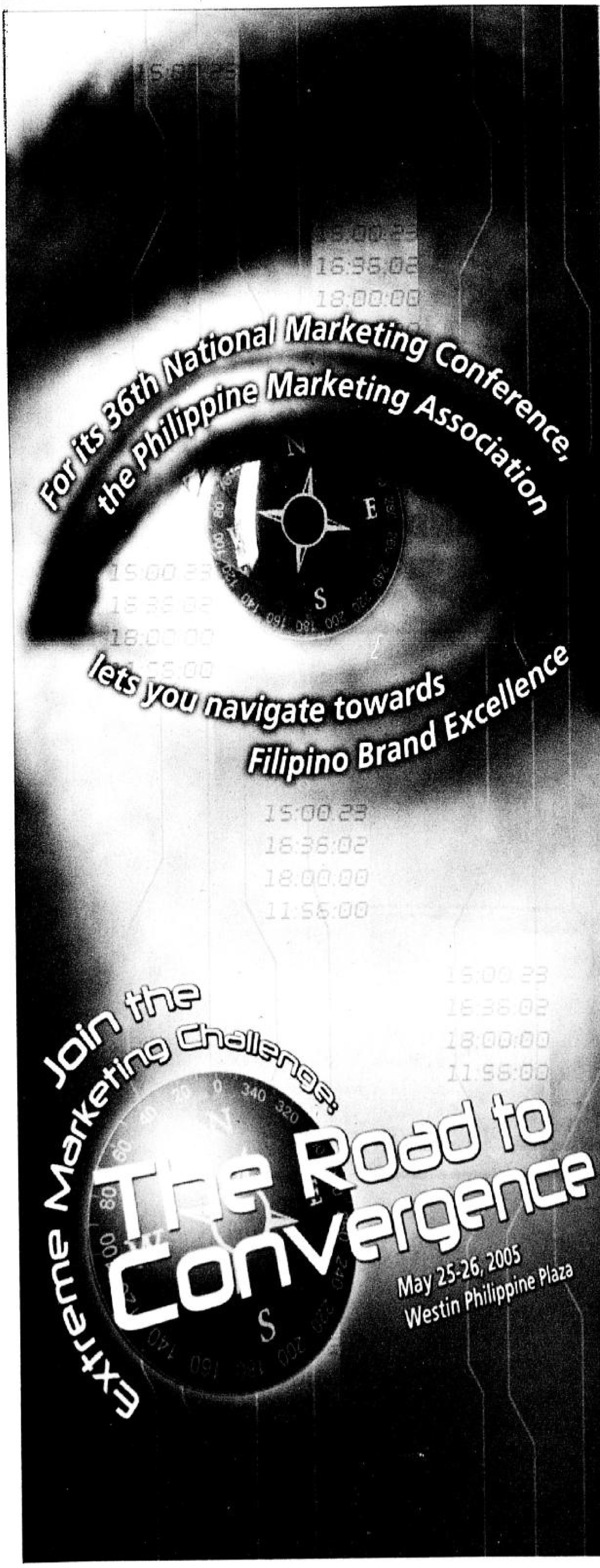
To solve this problem, Santeh has developed "Feed Reduction Technology," that utilizes high protein feed and daily pond fertilization is implemented to promote plankton growth that serves as additional food for the fish.

Ong explains that under this growth of tilapia is not sacrificed because the fish effectively assimilates the feed it had taken.

The success of Santeh's pellet feeds for tilapia and bangus in 1993 allowed it to venture into developing floating fish feeds for Lapu-Lapu in 1997.

Santeh earned a global reputation in quality management by becoming one of the firsts in the aquafeed industry to get the ISO:9001:2000 certification.

"Our products were developed through years of research, field tests and farming experience. We offer feeds for different development stages of fish from fry, juvenile and ault to ensure maximum growth and resistance to pathogenic diseases and environmental diseases," he says.


For its 36th National Marketing Conference,
the Philippine Marketing Association
lets you navigate towards
Filipino Brand Excellence
Join the
Extreme Marketing Challenge:
The Road to Convergence
May 25-26, 2005
Westin Philippine Plaza

Gain insights and learn from the experts!

Keynote Address: MR. JAIME AUGUSTO ZOBEL DE AYALA II*
President, Ayala Corporation

Topic: A Business Philosophy for Extreme Marketing: Pushing Your Limits in a Crisis Economy
Speaker: MR. BIENVENIDO S. POLICARPIO
Executive Vice President, Prudential Group of Companies / President, Dale Carnegie Philippines

Topic: The Taste that Conquered the World Now Conquers the Nation**
Speaker: MS. BERNADINE SY
President, Roosters Philippines, Inc.

Topic: Pain Makes Gains: Pharmaceutical Companies Going Beyond Pain
Speaker: MR. CARLOS "DO" EJERCITO
President, United Laboratories

Topic: The New Empire: Shaping the Future of High-Rise Condominiums
Speaker: MR. LUKE TAN
Director, Investor Relation/ Megaworld

Topic: Challenging Global Brands through Sports Marketing Events
Speaker: MR. CHRISTOPHE BEZU*
Senior Vice President, Adidas-Salomon AG, Hong Kong

Topic: Mega Formulas for Extreme Marketing from a Marketing Guru
Speaker: MR. HERMAWAN KARTAJAYA
President & Leading Service Officer, MarkPlus&Co.

Topic: Revealed: Telecommunications Convergence: Challenge to the Extreme!
Speaker: MR. FERDINAND M. DE LA-CRUZ*
Head, Wireless Business Group, Globe Telecom, Inc.

Topic: The New Imperative in Today's Convergence in Marketing: Sustainable Growth
Speaker: MR. GAVIN COOMBES
Vice-President, Euro RSCG Asia Pacific

Topic: Mall Mania: Shop Until You Drop!
Speaker: MR. LANCE GOKONGWEI*
President, Robinsons Land

Topic: New Rules in Market Leadership: Success Stories in Non-traditional Bank Marketing
Speaker: MR. TOMAS VICTOR MENDOZA*
SAVP, Banco de Oro Universal Bank

Topic: Creativity on the Edge: Media and Marketing Convergence
Speaker: MR. NICANOR C. GABUNADA, JR
Senior Vice President for Sales & Marketing ABS-CBN Broadcasting Company

Topic: Advertising Convergence: Bringing Filipino Consumers Closer to the Brand through Humor
Speaker: MR. JOSELITO B. ORTEGA
Chairman & CEO, BrandLab, Inc.

Topic: The Road to Recovery through Market Convergence
Speaker: MR. JOSE JESUS F. ROCES
Professor, Asian Institute of Management (AIM)
President, Asia Pacific Marketing Federation (APMF)

*To be confirmed
** Topic title may vary slightly

Hurry! Register now to get our EARLY BIRD RATES!

For full programme schedule and other details:

Tel. Nos.: 634-4690; 633-9470, 633-6035
Telefax: 636-1451; 634-5722 (ATTN: ROSE SANTOS)
Cell: 0916-714-1713
Email: sarahpv@pldtdsl.net
pma@philonline.com

WMA
Asia Pacific Marketing Federation
PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION
MARKETING CONVERGENCE

Teacher . . .

From page B3-1

the use of his science teaching devices.

A.V. Ideas started from a small room at the back of Villegas' house that doubled as a shop and display center at Fairlane Subdivision here.

The business has flourished to the point that its products are now kept in a warehouse in another residential subdivision.

To keep up with demand, the company also has to farm out to its sub-contractors projects for the manufacture of certain parts of the devices it distributes.

Moreover, about 400 units of its main product, the IdeaScience Instrumentation Set, which costs P78,000 each, have been sold to hundreds of public and private schools not only in Luzon but also in the cities of Cebu, Davao, Zamboanga, Marawi and Iloilo.

"This package of 39 science-teaching devices covers most of the basic physical and earth science principles," Villegas said.

Love for science

Villegas was a high school student at DBTI when he first displayed his love for science by working as an assistant of Salesian priest, Fr. George Schwarz, in the school's physics and chemistry laboratory.

Schwarz, a German scientist and missionary, introduced and promoted the "improvisation" of science-teaching instruments in the Philippines.

After graduation, Villegas entered the Mapua Institute of Technology as an engineering student. But due to his family's financial difficulty, he managed to finish only two academic years.

On learning that Villegas had returned to Tarlac, Schwarz promptly offered him a job at DBTI.

For two months, Villegas worked in the school's lab. Then he began his nearly 30-year long teaching career at DBTI, where he would ultimately become school principal.

As a teacher, Villegas was ingenious. A few years after he started teaching, he invented "The Averager", an instrument used to compute a student's average grade from a set of individual grades.

Made up only of an ordinary ruler mounted on a calibrated cardboard, it was a cheap substitute for the then expensive calculators. Moreover, it was quicker and user friendly.

He also developed the chemical analysis flowchart (CAF), a method for identifying an unknown inorganic substance.

Fruitful marriage

Villegas' marriage to Jessie Aguas, a public elementary school science teacher, in 1970 was made in heaven.

Not only were they in love, they also shared a common passion for science.

Their partnership gave birth to a son, Joey, an electronics and communications engineer in his early 30s, and to a thriving business.

Jessie, now a science supervisor in the Department of Education's schools division in Tarlac, won accolades here and abroad, including the prestigious Metrobank Outstanding Educator Award in 1985.

It was Jessie who brought A.V. Ideas products and concepts to international attention.

As a visiting consultant in Malaysia and Germany in the 1980s, she proposed the use of IdeaScience instruments as alternative instructional materials in teaching science.

Her efforts bore fruit when representatives of Malaysia's Regional Center for Education in Science and Math and Germany's GTZ supported A.V. Ideas "improvisation" campaign.

The decision to venture into the production of e-books and other information technology-related products was prompted by the firm's desire to give the total package, Villegas said.

The iTEXTbook was initially intended as a companion to the actual paper-bound textbook, acting as its equivalent teacher's guide or manual," according to the firm's electronic brochure.

Like its products, A.V. Ideas took a creative approach to marketing.

For example, as a start-up company in late 1990s, it carved a market niche by providing any or all of its science instruments to schools that subscribed to science magazines distributed by its partner publishing house.

Along with the magazine and the instruments come a resource manual for teachers, a CD-ROM with lesson plans, pupil activities, exams and reviewers and a training package for teachers on the use and maintenance of the devices.

The way A.V. Ideas has grown proves that science can be a business, too.

Serviced apartment optimistic about industry this year

USING its phenomenal performance last year as a springboard, Fraser Place Serviced Residences continues its upswing in 2005. While the hotel industry showed modest gains in 2004, the serviced residence in the heart of Makati's central business district posted 91 percent in occupancy at the end of the year—indeed, an exceptional achievement.

Its energetic and confident performance speaks well of Fraser Place's combined features: good amenities, state-of-the-art facilities and excellent service. Fraser Place takes pride in having the largest units of any development of its kind in the market.

Fraser Place's location is another attraction for many of its long-staying residents. Situated in Salcedo Village, it offers the convenience of being close to business addresses.

To ensure its guests' safety, Fraser Place features a keycard system, close circuit TV monitors, 24 hours security and bomb sniffing canines.

For local residents who simply want to take a breather in world-class surroundings, Fraser Place accepts short-staying and overnight guests. Dog and cat lovers will delight to know that Fraser Place is the only pet-friendly serviced residence in Makati.

Fraser Place General Manager, Christopher Bong, announces the addition of 40 new units to make a total of 142 rooms. Bong is exuberant at the development. "Fraser Place is looking forward to a higher occupancy rate due to improved market conditions, the positive developments in our corporate accounts, and the increased growth in tourism. With the additional rooms, Fraser Place can better serve its guests."

Bong's bright expectations come from 22 years of experience in the hotel and serviced residence industries. A native of Singapore, this dynamic general manager has worked in Hong Kong, Tibet, China, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand.

Westin appoints manager

THE WESTIN Philippine Plaza has announced the promotion of Paolo Campillo to Executive Assistant Manager (EAM) of the 645-room, luxury resort-hotel.

Campillo will handle the challenge of assisting in running deluxe hotel operations in the areas of rooms and food and beverage.

Campillo is the first Filipino EAM employed by Westin, a member of the Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, Inc., which has over 750 hotels worldwide.

Under Campillo's leadership as Director for Food and Beverage, he has driven the growth in the food and beverage department that enabled the hotel to achieve the third biggest market share in Metro Manila.

XPC
The Future Computer
Sexy, Silent, more powerful and upgradeable than obsolete tower pc

Shuttle
we create
www.shuttle.com
PC SHACK (02) 410-0755 / 727-5616 www.pcshack.com.ph

It Listens.
It Learns.
It Adapts.
It performs like no other.

Bose Lifestyle 48
DVD Home Entertainment System.

uMusic

New uMusic
Intelligent Playback System
Digitally store up to 350 audio CDs complete with album, artist and track titles with the press of a button. uMusic "learns" your type of music and plays them back to you depending on your mood.

ADAPTiQ

ADAPTiQ
Audio Calibration System
Unique only to Bose, ADAPTiQ measures the room acoustics and adjusts the system to match your particular listening environment.

Bose link
Music Throughout Your Home

New Bose Link
Expand your system into 14 additional rooms! Control what you want to hear in each room independently.

DVD/CD player with progressive scan • Integrated Six - Channel Bose Amplification System • Jewel Cube® speakers with Acoustimass Bass Module (not shown) • Videostage 5®, Dolby Digital 5.1 and DTS decoding • AM/FM tuner • Radio frequency universal remote control

Hear a whole new world of difference. Visit a Bose Showroom nearest you now.

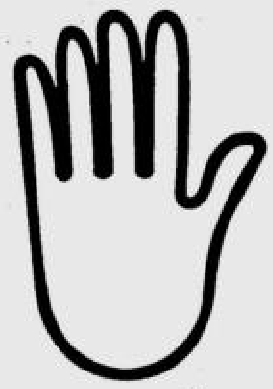
Eleksis
MARKETING CORPORATION
customer_service@eleksis.com

BOSE®

BOSE STORES: **SM Megamall:** Tel. No: 634-8484 to 85 • **SM City North Edsa:** Tel. No: 926-8034
Robinson's Place Ermita: Tel. No: 536-2668 • **Festival Supermall:** Tel. No: 850-3638 • **Power Plant Mall:** Tel. No: 898-2048
DEALERS: **Avant Abenson, Greenbelt 4:** Tel.No. 758-2316 • **Cebu Circuit City:** Tel.No: (032)231-3598
SoundRoom SM City Cebu: Tel.No.(032)232-9588 • **SoundRoom Ayala Center Cebu:** Tel.No: (032)231-9288
CD Plus, Iloilo: Tel.No: (033)320-7292 • **STRZ Electronics, Cagayan De Oro:** Tel.No: (088) 856-6081
Shoppers Plaza, Zamboanga City: Tel.No. (062) 991-3029

Our best housing loan ever!

5 reasons to get
METROHOME
Rate Protect Plus

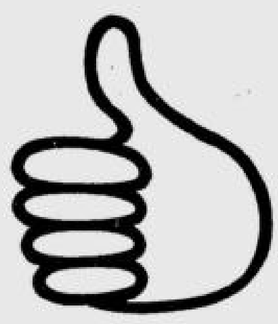


Guaranteed not to exceed 12% p.a. for 10 years
(For your peace of mind!)

Yearly rate adjustment for the first 5 years
(With a minimum of 10.5% p.a. and maximum of 12% p.a.)

12% p.a. fixed rate from the 6th to the 10th year
(Protection from uncertain rates in the future!)

Welcome rate of 10.75% p.a. for the 1st year
(One of the lowest in the market!)



What a deal!
(Call us now!)

Offer good until April 30, 2005. See flyers for details.

Limited offer! Rush to the nearest Metrobank branch now!

Call HOME FINANCING DIVISION at 898-8500 • 898-8509 • 898-8533 • 898-8880 • 898-8505 • 898-8573
CONSUMER LENDING BUSINESS CENTERS - Cebu City (032) 254-1263 • Calamba City (049) 834-1598 •
San Fernando City, Pamp. (045) 961-1577 • Urdaneta City, Pang. (075) 568-7414 • Davao City (082) 222-8771 •
Cagayan de Oro City (088) 857-7791 • Bacolod City (034) 433-8816 • Iloilo City (033) 336-3956

Interest rates subject to applicable taxes. Conditions apply.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1529 Series of 2005

You're in good hands with METROBANK

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices, and subsidiaries.
Head Office: Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City; Web Page: www.metrobank.com.ph
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱250,000.00 per depositor.

BUSINESS*Monday*

Franchising veterans to play big brothers

TEGI
NC
G C
CEPTS
Fra
Co
ancy

RICARDO Mercado, Claro Certeza, Celestino Reyes, Roberto Ocampo and Roberto Claudio.

FIVE leaders of the Philippine franchising industry recently merged their resources to form a company that mentors budding franchisors.

Dubbed Strategic Franchising Concepts Inc. (StratFran), the company is composed of Ricardo Mercado of the Ateneo de Manila School of Business and director of Red Ribbon Bakeshop as president; lawyer Claro Certeza, Ateneo Law School professor and former director and vice-president of Jollibee Foods Corporation as managing director; and Celestino Reyes, the creator of the mushrooming Reyes Haircutters franchise system; Robert Ocampo, formerly COO of Max Franchising, Inc.; and Roberto Claudio, chairman of Toby's Group of Companies as directors.

Well-respected and honored for their achievements and success in the industry, these five are now poised to lend their years of experience to guide local businessmen in utilizing franchising as a mode of expanding their business.

"Franchising is a powerful tool for business expansion. Successful franchisors like Jollibee, Toby's, Max's, Red Ribbon, and Reyes Haircutter's, to name a few, have shown that the potential for growth through franchising is unlimited," said Certeza, Managing Director of StratFran.

StratFran sees to it their clients fully understand the franchising concept before they franchise their business.

"The first step is to determine if the business can be franchised," stated Claudio. He says not everyone who steps in their offices end up franchising their business. StratFran evaluates their client's business models and when the occasion arises, they advise their clients not to proceed either because the business can not be franchised or because the client is not yet ready to assume the role of franchisor, Claudio says.

"After determining that the client's business model is fit for franchising, we see to it that the necessary operations manual are in place to ensure the proper transfer of technology," according to Mercado.

He alleges that normally, entrepreneurs do not document the steps in operating their business in an operations manual.

Thus, when they franchise, the franchisor is at a loss as to how to teach the franchisee how to replicate the business.

The operations manual serves as the bible for the franchisee in operating the business.

Reyes, on the other hand, indicated that to be successful in franchising, one must learn how to choose the right franchisee.

He says StratFran assists its clients in evaluating prospective franchisees to ascertain this required fit.

According to Ocampo, it is easy to resort to copying franchise agreements when entrepreneurs franchise their business.

These entrepreneurs mistakenly assume that one franchise agreement format fits all types of businesses.

StratFran tailor fits franchise agreements to suit the requirements of its clients.

Strategic Franchising Concepts Inc., has offices at Unit 1008 Atlanta Centre Building, 31 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila. It can be reached through 726-4903 and 725-6525.

Jet★Asia now flies to Singapore from only USD59.

Daily flights from Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Daily flights from 27 April 2005.

Now there's a better way to fly. A one-way fare to Singapore is just USD59 (limited seats available). You'll enjoy brand new aircraft, allocated leather seating and a 20kg baggage allowance. Simply book by 18 April 2005 and travel by 30 June 2005. **So what's stopping you?**

www.JetstarAsia.com, call centre (Metro Manila): 9003051
Qantas Airways Ltd: 8104744

Terms and conditions: 1. Fares quoted are for one-way and exclude airport taxes, admin fees and insurance charges. 2. Seats subject to availability. 3. A service fee is applicable for bookings through our Call Centre and travel agent. 4. All subject to government approval. 5. Image courtesy of the Singapore Tourism Board.

First Value -For-Money Airline to Fly into Ninoy Aquino International Airport

Jetstar Asia to commence daily flights to Manila this month

Manila, April 5th, 2005 - Jetstar Asia announced that would begin services to Manila, Philippines on April 27th 2005, with the introduction of daily flights between Manila's commercial passenger hub, Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and Singapore's Changi Airport.

To celebrate the Manila launch, a special introductory price for one-way airfares, from Manila to Singapore is offered at US$59. After which, everyday low fares will start from US$79.

"We are delighted to be able to fly from Ninoy Aquino International airport and further strengthen the links between the Philippines and Singapore," said Jetstar Asia CEO Ken Ryan.

"With Jetstar Asia's great ticket prices and the convenience of flying from the primary international airport, we're very confident that our Manila-Singapore service will be hugely popular with Filipinos looking to visit Singapore."

Jetstar Asia's flight from Singapore to Manila will be 3K561 leaving at 7:50 am and arriving at 11:20 am, and the return flight from Manila will be Jetstar Asia flight 3K562 at 12:20 pm arriving Singapore at 3:45 pm.

"We would like to extend our congratulations to Jetstar Asia in anticipation of their inaugural flight into Philippines," said Mr Roeson Chang, Area Director, Philippines & Brunei for the Singapore Tourism Board. "Singapore remains ASEAN's No. 1 tourism source into the Philippines. Similarly, Year 2004 saw a spectacular growth of Philippine visitors to Singapore - up 40% against 2003. The arrival of Jetstar Asia will serve to enhance this strong tourism traffic & further cement the already excellent bilateral relationship between both our republics & our peoples."

Customers wanting to take advantage of the fabulous launch offers, can book seats for Manila by visiting Jetstar Asia's website at www.jetstarasia.com, by calling (63) 2-900 3051 or contacting Qantas Airways at (63) 2-810 4744. Introductory fare is available for bookings made by April 18th and travel completed by June 30th 2005. Limited seats are available.

About Jetstar Asia

Jetstar Asia is a partnership between Qantas (49%); Tony Chew (22%); FF Wong (10%) and Temasek Holdings (Private) Limited (19%). The airline currently flies to multiple destinations within five hours of Singapore including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Philippines.

ADVT

blosernet
Guaranteed Security at Your Fingertips
Trusted & Used by
EPSON
SPLASH
Hitec International Corp.

MONDAY,
APRIL 11, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

C1

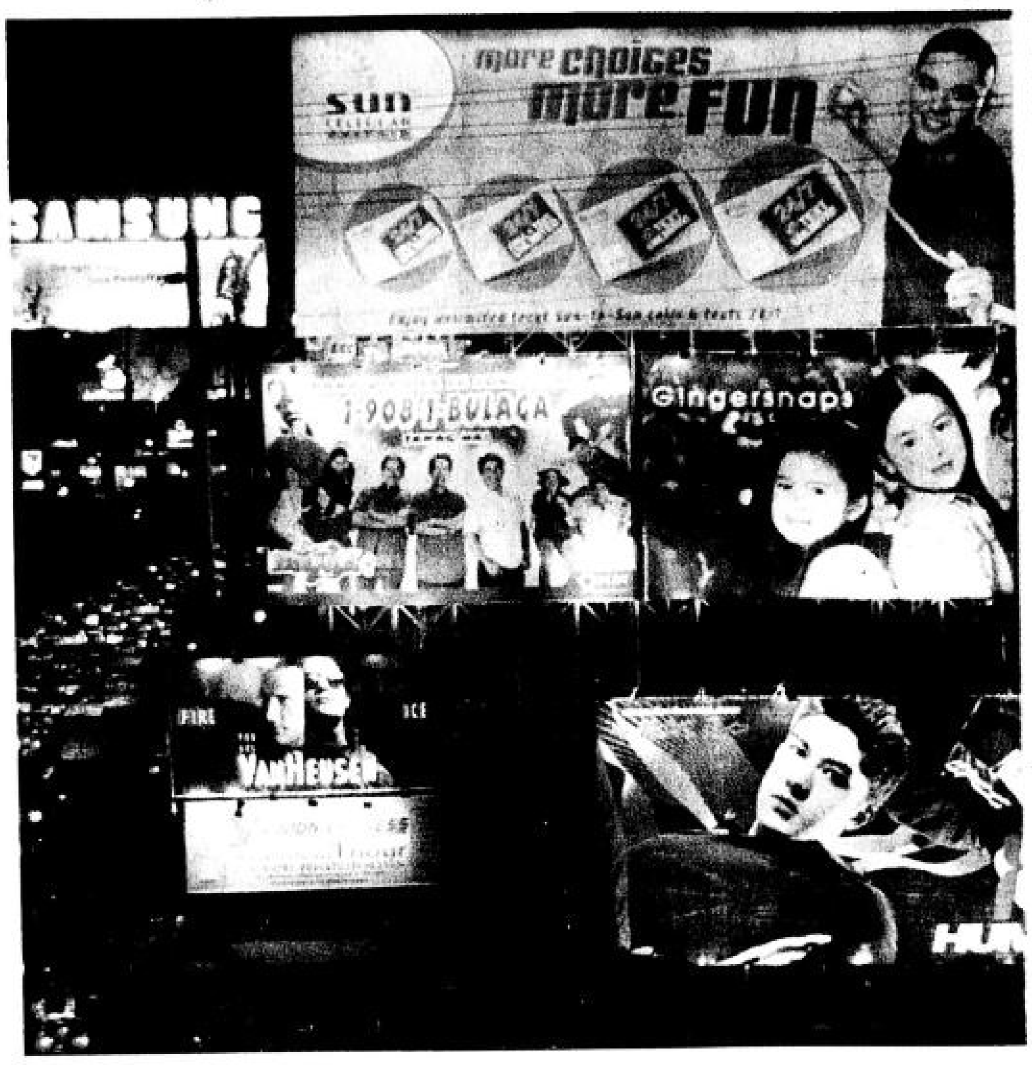
LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**
Subsection Editor **Lito B. Zulueta**

P99
per dozen
DUNKIN' DONUTS
RAINBOW
Choco Rings



THE STATE of the art along Edsa today

VAL HANDUMON

BILLBOARDS still clutter Nicanor Reyes Street in the University Belt despite successful beautification campaign by building owners, businessmen and Far Eastern University

Outdoor advertising has rendered Manila ugly beyond belief

City of billboards—uggh!

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

MANILA, admittedly no longer "City Beautiful" as originally envisioned, once projected a strong image.

The coastal city was known in Asia as the region's only Spanish colonial capital. At the turn of the last century, the city was expanded by the American colonial government as a leafy garden city planned by the eminent American architect Daniel Burnham.

Even if poorly reconstructed after extensive World War II damage, Manila still managed to retain its pedigree, identity and urban green spaces.

Asians traveled to Manila until the early 1970s to take in the city's East-West culture and marveled at the Dewey Boulevard urbanscape that tucked buildings behind a belt of trees which opened out to the shores of Manila Bay. It was a different face to Asia, our neighbors said.

That different face did not last through the next generation. Look at Manila today—a city totally worn out and ugly beyond belief.

Instead of trying to revive and revitalize a city so that we can be proud of it, we kill our cities. Now that most of our cities have decayed to death, our next step has been to cover everything up.

Massive billboards that seem to grow in size and number right before our eyes cover most of Manila's open space and deface its architecture. Drive down any Manila street and be engulfed by monster billboards.

Rare vistas

In the Burnham Plan for Manila of the early 20th century, vistas were all-important. Daniel Burnham created what was once called Dewey Boulevard, a wooded parkway along the shores of Manila Bay, a tropical seaside vista establishing the connection of the city with its bay. That parkway is no longer wooded.

Today vistas are rare. One of my favorite city vistas is of an elegant, colonnaded building, abandoned on a high bluff overlooking a bend on Pasig River.

Once it was a peaceful view, a respite from city bustle. These days I have to look quickly to catch that view because in a millisecond it vanishes between the gaps of the larger-than-life billboards tunneling both sides of the C5 bridge as I drive across the river.

Offensive

Billboards offend. They clutter landscapes. They block views that are psychologically essential to well-being. Try and get any kind of vista, urban or rural, that is not obstructed by billboards today.

Billboards offend me. They have robbed me of my line of sight, of my right to a pleasing view, of my right to live surrounded by beauty.

Imagine what a Parisian would do if one billboard appeared on his beloved Champs Elysées? In the Philippines, we would pretend the billboard was not there, and say nothing as billboards mushroom around our open spaces.

Outdoor advertising is changing our cultural practices as well. Gone are the days when a barrio would spend nights cutting strips of

CITY/C2

PSBank
Home RATE PROTECT

Secure your
home loan now with
PSBank's LOWEST rates ever!

Fixing Period	Interest Rate*	Monthly Amortization**
1 - year	10.75 %	P10,153
2 - year	11.25 %	P10,493
3 - year	11.50 %	P10,665
5 - year	12.00 %	P11,011

* Rates apply only for new loan releases where purpose is acquisition, construction or refinancing. Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
** For every loan amount of P1,000,000 with a 20-year loan term.

Apply at any PSBank branch nationwide.
For more information, call 888-5194, 885-8212,
885-8208 loc. 8404, 8407 or 8409,
or text PSBANK HOME AD
<your name> <landline nos.> <e-mail address>
to 2327 for Globe users & 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.

"Your Concern For Passing Is Our Passion!"
The ULTIMATE REVIEW for UP ATENEO LASALLE

Updated Materials — Expert Teachers
Small Class Size — Refresher Course
Structured Review — Proven Techniques
Pre & Post Test Consultation
Physics & Trigonometry Advancement
Study Hall — Your Learning Specialist
FREE DIAGNOSTIC TEST
GREENHILLS 722-7180 Q.C. 426-3042

Attention Exhibitors and Entrepreneurs!!

Tiangge
St. Francis
SQUARE
Julia Vargas corner Bank Drive,
Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
between SM Megamall and The Podium
e-mail us at: stfrancissquare@yahoo.com
- Multi-level shopping venue
- 1,000 plus tiangge stalls
- fully air-conditioned

application forms now available
Register Now!

Call us at: 892-7777 or
text us at (0916) 7005999

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS

Relive a magical era as this acoustic group dish out their latest offering from Vicor Music - the OPM KLASIKS.

Nyoy Volante with Mannos

NM&M OPM KLASIKS
MALL TOUR

a world to discover

ROBINSONS Malls
www.robinsonsmalls.com

PLDT vibe

Subscribing to
PLDT Vibe
Promo Plan 99*
just got faster and easier.

For only ₱99 a month, you get 99++ hours** of internet access.

- Rates as low as prepaid cards!
- Faster than other top prepaid internet cards

APPLY NOW!

Get wired to Vibe, the fast and easy way to get you surfing in no time.

Your home telephone number:
Your name: (anyone in the family over 12 yrs. old can apply)
Last First MI.
Your relationship to the Subscriber on Record: (the name in the PLDT bill)
Your home address:
Your mobile phone no.:
Your birthdate (MM/DD/YY):
Sign here: ✓

Write 3 choices of your log-on username. Make sure your username has 6-10 alphanumeric characters. For example, michael88.
1st Choice:
2nd Choice:
3rd Choice:

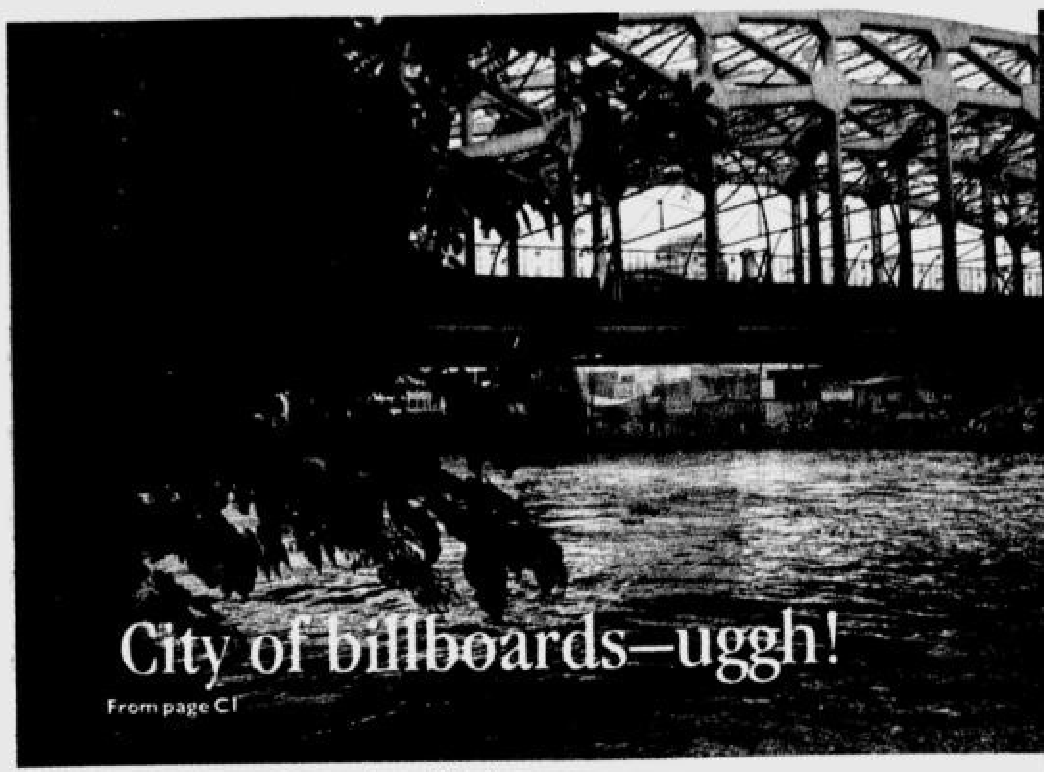
NOW FAX THIS FORM TO (02)864-3461.

* LOCK-IN PERIOD NOW WAIVED as approved by DTI
Months 1-3 at ₱99/month. Months 4 onwards ₱220/month
** Includes peak and off-peak hours
Offer good within Metro Manila and Luzon only until April 30, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6086, Series of 2004
call 171 or visit www.pldtmyped.com for details

PLDT

dermstrata Happy skin, Happy you
Botox Treatment • Mesotherapy • Facials • Spa
Crystal Resurfacing - the latest & safest way to a whiter, clearer, younger skin. Visit us now
[illegible]
Soon To Open @ SM Bicutan

CINDY KURLETO, Model, Actress, VJ



City of billboards—uggh!

From page C1

EACH Manileño has a right to a vista of his city.

IS IT goodbye to Manila's only urban forest, Arroceros Forest Park?

colored paper to string together and hang during fiesta time. These days they simply call Globe or Smart for ready-made buntings which garishly extol the virtues of its mobile telephone services.

Billboards have gone mobile, too. Now they are mounted on wheels and driven around the city, adding to the already critical urban traffic woes, increasing the pollution level, and wasting precious fuel.

In other countries, each citizen has a right to the view. Structures in cities are not allowed to block natural views. In many places, billboards are rigorously regulated, if not altogether banned. Why not in the Philippines?

Billboards violate our right to open space above the ground in the same way that insensitive construction violates our right to open space on ground level.

Concrete jumble

Taft Avenue was another classic tree-lined Burnham vista anchored by the Post Office, stretching past the Intramuros walls and the ill-fated Mehan Garden. Punctuated by American colonial buildings like the National Museum, Philippine Normal University and Philippine General Hospital, it was worthy of eliciting pride in our capital city.

Concrete buildings will soon replace an unspecified area in the city's carefully nurtured urban forest cover at Arroceros Forest Park. Mehan Garden, the oldest botanical garden in Asia, will soon disappear under concrete when the City College of Manila rises on the site.

Arroceros Forest Park is a rare patch of dense urban green in the center of polluted Manila. Winner Foundation signed a contract with former Mayor Alfredo Lim to develop and maintain the park, now the site chosen to construct much-needed dormitory buildings for the teachers of Manila.

Was there consultation between the city, teachers and park management to seek common ground before starting construction, to have a preview of the architectural design, and to determine whether the proposed dormitory has as small a footprint as possible so that a maximum of park space can remain?

TAKE a last look at this downtown Manila building before another giant billboard covers its beautiful façade.

The teachers need their dormitory as badly as Manila needs its forest. Could there have been a way for both to get what they needed?

Offensive billboards and illegal buildings on heritage areas raise questions. Is anyone in charge of our urban heritage? Do citizens have a voice in the disposition of their urban heritage? How do citizens consult with the city government on heritage matters?

On the other hand, who are the citizens the city government can consult with on heritage matters? What are the ground rules for preserving urban heritage?

The condition of a city tells everything about the people who live in it. Randy David observes ("Billboard Nation," PDI, April 3): "But over the years we have done everything possible to make [Manila] ugly and unlivable. Its overall shabbiness conveys not just our poverty but our loss of pride and self-esteem as a people."

It really is time to clear the air, be proactive, and work out definite solutions together so heritage is clearly included into development agendas as it is in many other cities in the Philippines and elsewhere in the world.

Why are we so intent on inflicting deep scars on our cities and landscapes? It gives an accurate picture of the sad lack of respect we have for our culture and country.

Heritage watch Silliman University: Responding to last week's Heritage Watch item, Jollibee contacted the National Historical Institute for consultation on the architectural appropriateness of their new store to be built within the Silliman University heritage zone in Dumaguete.

Heritage Watch Earth Day 2005: Celebrations take off on the April 22 launch of month-long environmental activities. Support Earth Day. Organize community activities and join the network by informing the Earth Day 2005 secretariat at sagip_pasig@yahoo.com; or fax 9296626 local 2216. Suggested activities are clean-ups of beaches and seas (including *scubasurero* by divers); clean up of creeks, rivers, lake, streets, parks; tree-planting in urban centers, mountains, mangroves, river banks, parks; discussions/seminars/workshops on various environmental topics; Takbo o Lakad para sa Kalikasan (similar to Alay Lakad); Bike for Clean Air; free emission testing; art contest, poster-making, song-writing, essay-writing contest; environmental concerts.

Environmental activities send a powerful message to leaders and citizens everywhere that world citizens are creating a safer and more sustainable world for our children.

E-mail the author at afvillalon@hotmail.com

We are Launching Philippine Sports to New Heights!
PAT OZAETA
Football
KENNIE ASUNCION
Badminton
TONI RIVERO
Taekwondo
15 APRIL '05
6 O'CLOCK PM
THE FORT

LEAD to GOLD

The quest for the most prestigious ASEAN football gold in 2015 and a gold medal in taekwondo in the 2008 Beijing Olympics begins.

REMEMBER THE TITANS

Relive some of sports most memorable moments in the words of the greatest Filipino athletes of yesterday and today in this intimate photo exhibit.

Exhibit is open to the public starting at 6pm

SPORTS

A dazzling crossover of sports and fashion where popular athletes and sports-minded celebrities showcase the latest sporting apparel and equipment amidst dinner and music.

Minimum donation of Php1500.00 for Dinner and Show

Developing the Filipino Champion

For more information about LEAD to Gold or LEAD Institute of Sport, please call: 633-6321 or 631-6201

LEAD INSTITUTE OF SPORT

In partnership with PLDT SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION SMART INQUIRER

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

WINNING BOOK ENTRY
Asian Pacific Publishers Association (APPA) Book Award chair and concurrently Philippine Educational Publishers Association (PEPA) president lawyer Dominador Buhain (center) awards a thousand-dollar prize to the winning book entry from Thailand with Thanachai Santichaikul, president of Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand, during the Asean Book Publishers Association Meeting in Bangkok last March 26.

Filipino language study made easy

LOOKING for a fun and sure way for non-native friends and family to learn Filipino?

"Learn Filipino: Book One" by Victor Eclar Romero is what you're looking for. The 384-page book uses conversational Filipino and aims to make students immediately proficient in the language within 30 lessons.

The first 15 lessons take readers through a tutorial on everyday language structures, while the next 15 engage the student in complete conversations. A companion CD enables students to practice speaking.

Romero, database architect, photographer and composer, demonstrates a deep knowledge of and passion for his native language. The Tarlac-born author's book has gained a five-star rating from Amazon customers since publication.

Lee Crowe of Houston, Texas says on Amazon.com: "This is the best book I have ever come across for learning Tagalog. The CD was fantastic."

"Learn Filipino: Book One" is available online at www.amazon.com

Finally, a medical laboratory that adheres to global standards!

The first and only in the COUNTRY!

These prestigious recognitions are your guarantee that we conduct tests using technologically advanced systems and instrumentation combined with the highest quality reagents. It is our mission to release timely and accurate results, because your health is our priority. So when it comes to having laboratory tests, get it from the name you can trust: Hi-Precision Diagnostics.

TÜV SUD ISO 9001
TÜV PRODUCT SERVICE ISO 15189
The first and only to be awarded with BOTH ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 15189:2003

State-of-the-Art Laboratory Equipment!

Highly Trained medical technologists!

Highly Efficient laboratory information system using Bar Coded Specimens for patient identification

Caring Staff

Congratulations from
Roche
Sysmex
gsk GlaxoSmithKline
LIFELINE
Dakila Trading Corporation

HI - PRECISION diagnostics
Quality Healthcare at Affordable Prices

MAIN BRANCH: (02)413.79.50 • T.M.KALAW: (02)526.23.29 • EAST AVE.: (02)436.10.97
CEBU MAIN BRANCH: (032)256.01.51 • CEBU CORPORATE BRANCH: (032)255.41.33
visit at: www.hi-precision.com.ph

IF SOMEONE YOU ARE CARING FOR HAS SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS, BUILD THEIR STRENGTH WITH **NUTREN**.

When you're looking after a loved one's particular needs, you become aware of how things can suddenly change.

Now, their current medical condition prevents them from being as active as they once were.

Bring back the spark and energy into their lives with a better way of caring. One that can make them feel stronger everyday.

Nutren is a delicious meal replacement product and supplement in powder form – a breakthrough from the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland. Known and prescribed by doctors, Nutren provides support for medical conditions where the role of nutrition is vital. In itself, Nutren is more than a complete meal since it contains whey plus all of the essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals in **every** glass.

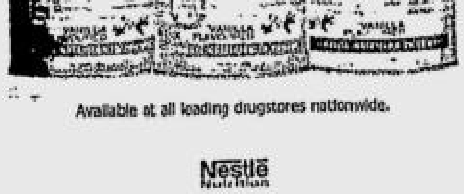
In fact, Nutren contains at least 3 times more whey protein than any other commercially-prepared food product or homemade alternative. Whey protein has been clinically proven to:

- help maintain muscle mass throughout aging and repair body tissues[1]
- help boost the immune system by raising levels of glutathione (an **anti-oxidant**), thereby helping reduce the risk of infection[2]

	WHEY
Nutren Meal Replacement	HIGH
Milk supplements	LOW
Table food	NONE

With Nutren, you can give the best and complete care possible, making everyday a special one to look forward to.

FEEL STRONGER EVERYDAY



Available at all leading drugstores nationwide.

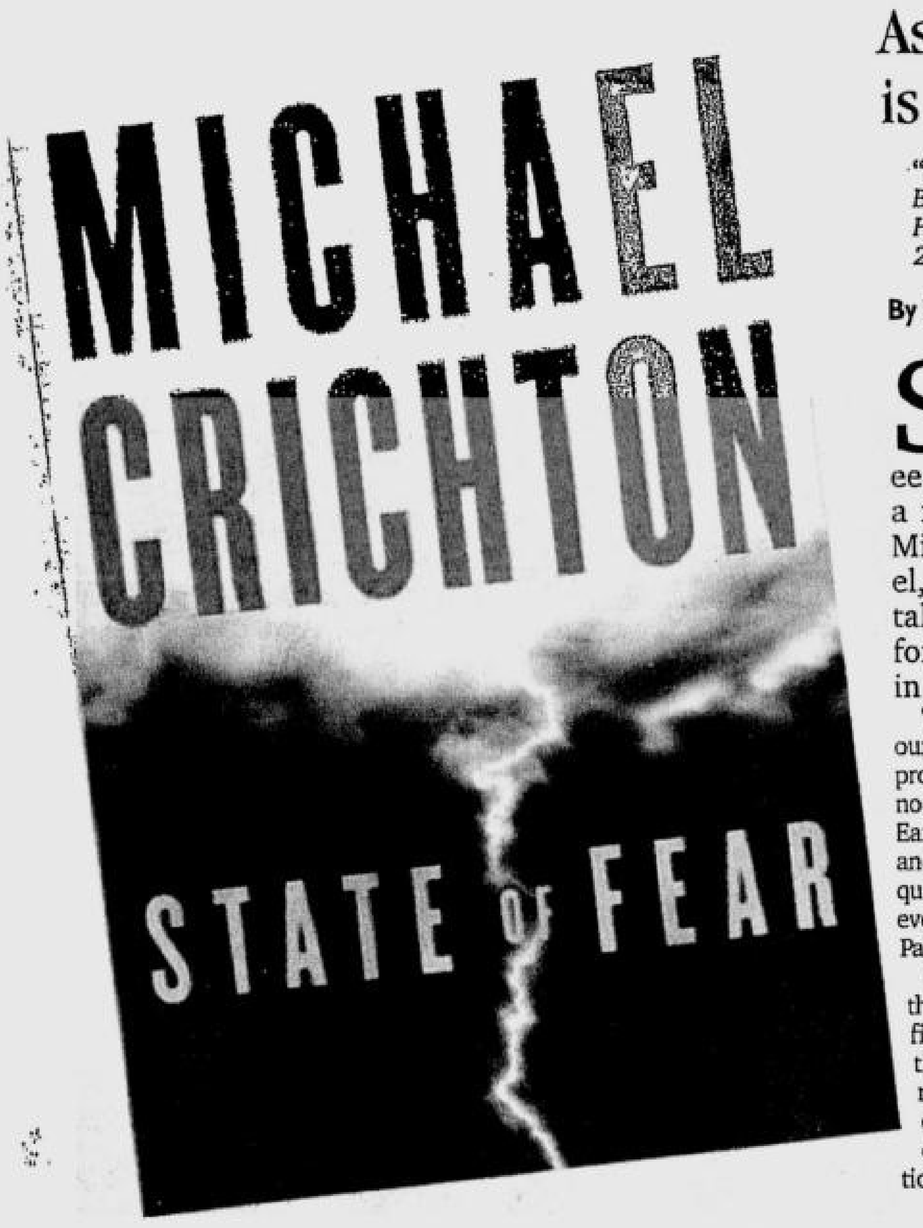
Nestlé Nutrition
Nutren Solutions
SPECIALIZED NUTRITION

[1] Walzem, R.L., C.J. Dillard, and J.B. German. Crit. Rev. Food & Sci & Nutr. 42:353, 2002. [2] [illegible] A. Cancer Res 1994 54(5):1969-1975.

[illegible] your concerns.

Michael Crichton's State of emergency

As relevant as it is radical, the 'Jurassic Park' author's latest is a fun if predictable Hollywood-ready thrill ride



"State of Fear"
By Michael Crichton
HarperCollins, New York,
2004, 603 pages

By Ruel S. De Vera

SOMETIMES, a book can be so timely that the coincidence is downright eerie. That's exactly the feeling a reader gets when exploring Michael Crichton's latest novel, "State of Fear," a frightening tale about the devastating force of tsunamis, about man in the face of nature's fury.

"And even today, after five billion years, our planet remains amazingly active," a protagonist explains. "We have 500 volcanoes, and an eruption every two weeks. Earthquakes are continuous: a million and a half a year, a moderate Richter 5 quake every six hours, a big earthquake every 10 days. Tsunamis race across the Pacific Ocean every three months."

But "State of Fear" isn't about just that. The book is also about people fighting for the environment and those they oppose. And that's where the book really begins to become special. "Because, like it or not, we're in the middle of a war—a global war of information versus disinformation. The war is fought on many battlegrounds. Newspaper op-eds. Television reports. Scientific journals. Websites, conferences, classrooms—and courtrooms, too, if it comes to that," the leader of a pro-environmental nongovernmental organization (NGO) states. "We have truth on our side, but we're outnumbered and outfunded."

Or are they? That NGO, the National Environmental Resource Fund (NERF), has all the bells and whistles of a big, actual pro-environmental lobby: celebrity supporters, rich donors. But NERF has a lot of .secrets. Crichton's 14th novel turns the tables and says that sometimes the government and big bad corporate bugbears may not be the enemy. How Crichton turns those tables is as audacious as it is resolute.

Add to that how effective Crichton can be when he combines cutting-edge knowhow with zeitgeist-hot topics (sexual harassment in "Disclosure" and epidemics in "The Andromeda Strain"). The novel's events occur close to the holding of a high-profile conference on climate change in Santa Monica, a conference not unlike this year's world summit on reducing natural disasters in Tokyo. How about that for verisimilitude?

Like his best-selling work, "State of Fear" is about science and how it is used—in this case, misused. Like his previous creations, the characters in "State of Fear" spout page after page of scientific explanation. Likewise, Crichton is probably the only top-tier craftsman of mainstream fiction who can produce a gripping bestseller full of real footnotes plus appendices.

It just so happens that this time, that science is truly compelling. The revelations (backed by the aforementioned graphs and footnotes, of course) Crichton makes regarding the issues surrounding global warming and the cascading struggle—financial, ideological, political and now in this book, actual—over those same issues will surprise most readers, whether or not you agree with him.

After the box-office success of "Jurassic Park" and the longevity of TV's "E.R.," it should come as no surprise that Crichton provides the book with a Hollywood-ready cast and setting. There's the impossibly capable Dr. John Kenner, who is a laconic, square-jawed action hero with an action-figure name, complete with stealthy Nepali sidekick Sanjong. There's the impossibly athletic and gorgeous personal assistant Sarah, the impossibly lucky and plucky lawyer Peter Evans (the amiable fellow around whom the narrative actually revolves) and of course, concerned industry mogul George Morton, who just happens to own airplanes and cars and anything they might need along the way.

Aside from the cardboard cutouts from characters, the novel's plot is just a

degree too
suspect tha
seems, he
wreck. Me
around the
technology
cavitation
mersibles)
ominous de

It will be
group to p
made disas
so, they ha
around th
gunmen an
lava. You c
this early.

Though
predictable
of washes o
grossing b
ton's propel
thought-pr
"State of Fe
sonal think
think befo
hear—and
gifts to co
that in this
the way m
one in the
creation of
vailing forc

Availabl
Bookstore a

Two islands, one culture

"In The Far Islands: The Role of Natives from the Philippines in the Conquest, Colonization and Repopulation of the Mariana Islands, 1668-1903"
By Augusto V. De Viana,
UST Publishing,
2004, 307 pages

By Jose Victor Z. Torres
Contributor

THERE is always a stir in history circles when one learns something new is discovered.

This is what makes In The Far Islands an exciting read.

In our high school and college history lessons, we only encounter the Marianas (specifically, Guam) three times: twice during the Spanish period as Magellan's Islas de Ladrones (Isles of Thieves), later to become the place of exile of Spanish political prisoners and, once, during the American period as the prison island for irreconcilables like Apolinario Mabini and Artemio Ricarte. It is only much later, the 1990s to be exact, that we see the Marianas again in our history as the place of the martyrdom of Visayan catechist Blessed Pedro Calungsod.

But in De Viana's book, we realize how much the Filipinos played a role, with the Spaniards, in the conquest and colonization of the Marianas Islands. Though research on Philippine-Marianas relations is not new, this is the first full-length study we have encountered on the subject.

De Viana traces this historical relationship from the time of Magellan's landing in Guam in 1521 to the exit of the Filipino political exiles under American rule in 1903. Like all stories of colonial conquest, it is a tale written in blood and fire. Surprisingly, the Filipinos were deeply involved in it and, like the Spanish conquistador, they also play the multiple role of conqueror, religious missionary, colonizer and, ironically, prisoner.

De Viana also shows the various influences (social, cultural, political and economic) that the Filipinos left with the Chamorros. What makes his research interesting is that the cultural assimilation to the Marianas natives came from the Filipinos. It is a refreshing view that we Filipinos were bringers of change to another country instead of the other way around.

It is amazing to know how much material related to the Philippines can be found in primary sources on the Marianas. It is assumed that those found and used by De Viana are only a part of what could be found in government archives and libraries here and abroad.

This proves that there is still much to be done in accessing foreign holdings to learn about the history of our country. De Viana's book is a starting step to the long walk in learning about our past through the people of these islands in the South Pacific.

We, regrettably, have to point out some flaws in the book, especially in the writer's style, though this does not affect the valuable contents of the work.

De Viana should have incorporated some of his endnotes in the narrative. The reader will lose a large chunk of the story if he or she decides to skip these notes and move to the next chapter. Many interesting anecdotes can be found in the notes.

For example, there is the story of the surrender of the Spanish garrison in Guam to the US cruiser Charleston in 1898. De Viana writes that the American officers "surprised the (Spanish) captain of the port by informing him that his men were his prisoners because war had been declared between Spain and the United States." (p. 136)

But in the endnote corresponding to this sentence, he writes of an amusing incident that happened before the surrender:

The Charleston initially fired a salvo that alerted the Spanish garrison. When the Americans landed, they were met by the Spanish officer who apologized for not returning the cruiser's salute(!) as his command did not have ammunition for their cannons. It was only afterwards that the Spaniard realized that the cruiser was firing its guns in an act of war.

There is also a question why "natives of Philippines" was used in the title instead of "Filipino." This work was written with a local point-of-view on the Filipino colonization of the Mariana Islands. Being referred to as "native" seems to have come from the Spanish sources. It is awkward for a Filipino writer to refer to his countrymen as such.

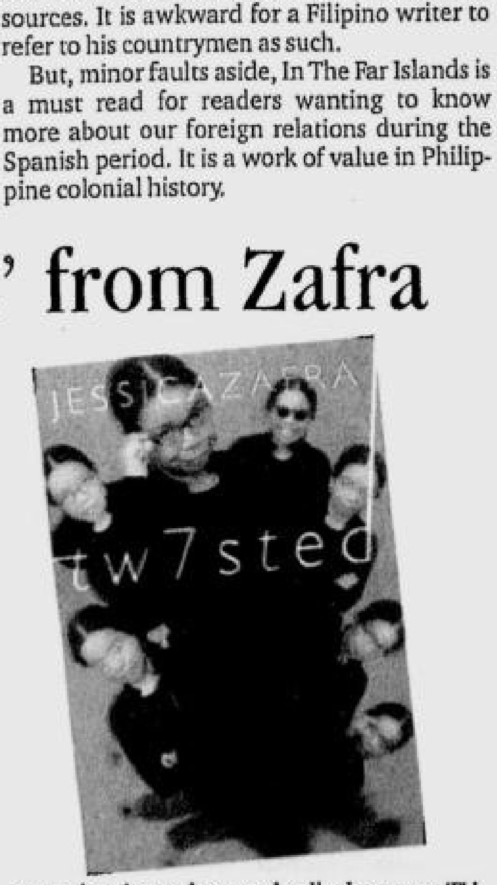
But, minor faults aside, In The Far Islands is a must read for readers wanting to know more about our foreign relations during the Spanish period. It is a work of value in Philippine colonial history.

More 'Twisted' from Zafra

ANVIL Publishing Inc. recently released the seventh book in the best-selling "Twisted" series by well-known columnist and TV host Jessica Zafra.

In "Tw7sted," Zafra writes about her continuing quest for world domination, mortality, art and urban life with her usual acerbic humor. In her moving piece titled "Sympathy for the Mutant," she writes, "I'd hate death by sickness... It is not noble and awe-inspiring... It is as abrupt and banal as the flicking of a switch. This is not what death should be. Death, the reason for religion, the subject of great literature... the giant mystery that looms over everything we do... should be spectacular, not pity-inducing, a bang and not a whimper. We have no power over life and death, we are subject to pain and misery, but we command words. When you think about it, words are all we really have."

There will be a book signing on April 13, 6 p.m., at PowerBooks SM Megamall, and on April 20, 6 p.m., at PowerBooks Greenbelt 4.



Zafra writes a regular newspaper column, has hosted several talk shows on TV and FM radio, published and edited a magazine, recorded an audio book, appeared in a movie and written a collection of short stories.

Vivid memoirs of a great

Vivir para contarla
GABRIEL GARCÍA MÁRQUEZ

Garcia Marquez's memoir offers long, dense, often marvelous chapters and passages, broken only by snippets of dialogue remembered through the decades

"Vivir para contarla"
(Living to Tell the Tale)
By Gabriel García Márquez
Vintage Español, Nueva York,
483 pages

By Amadís Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

UNARGUABLY the greatest living novelist in the world today, Gabriel García Márquez (born in 1927 in Arataca, Colombia) has vividly recreated his childhood and youth in this book, the opening salvo of his memoirs.

Moving backward and forward in time, like one of the author's major novels, the book begins when Gabito, as Gabriel was called then by intimates, is a struggling 20-year-old journalist paid three pesos for a news story and four pesos for an editorial *"cuando faltaba alguno de los editorialistas"* (when one of the editorial writers was not around).

The chapters and passages are long, dense, often marvelous, broken only by snippets of dialogue remembered (one hopes not imagined) through the decades.

A major influence in García Márquez's life is his maternal grandfather, Colonel Nicolás Márquez, a veteran of Colombia's bitter, seven civil wars between conservatives and liberals during the 19th century, following the country's independence from Spain.

The colonel later was forced to kill a man in a duel. But even today, as he was writing this book, García Márquez felt more compassion for the victim's family than for his own.

There was another duel, even more operatic, in which the two antagonists wounded each other seriously, prayed to God that the opponent would survive (not realizing the extent of each other's wounds), and then both died in a few days weeping for each other.

Remarkable figure

Another remarkable figure is the author's mother, Luisa Santiaga Márquez, who lived to the age of 97 and died on the same day her son was finishing his memoirs. She bore 11 children, had 65 grandchildren, 88 great-grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

The courtship between the author's father, Gabriel Eligio García, and mother, with its parental hostility and clandestine messages, reads like a *telenovela*, like the Korean "Irene" perhaps but at a higher level. Decades later, Garcia Márquez would recycle the love story of his parents into

one of his finest
tiempos del cóler
Cholera").

The first book t
"Las mil y una n
One Nights"). He
that a relative exc
va a ser escritor!" (
The prophetic sta
pression on him.

But he also lov
fact, he even par
singing contest La
nately, the notes w
despite his frantic
before he could
stage mother was

At the Jesuit-r
young Gabito gain
suit fathers even
in a booklet titled
pidities). His fathe
in the American *c*
his mother, a stau
cause it was an
(*"...era un cubil de*

Epochal event

To this day, Ga
fact that he is not
guage of many
Faulkner and Joyc
ish translation).

The shadow of t
firm, the United Fr
the author's childh
was violently brok
many dead and un
realist nightmare,
left.

An even more
sassination of a l
date on April 9,
The young journa
Enrique fled for t
the capital city.
turned into a war
sion followed.

By that time, Ga
the most importan
a writer all his life

He made good
him lay fame whi
ed him to be a law
ership in the mill
in 1982.

This was a po
plauded by the a
including then F
Mitterand who, i
bled García Már
emotion..." (I salu

"Living to Tell th
and hardbound
stores in the count

UP launches Programa Lumbera

THE NATIVIDAD Galang Fajardo Foundation will inaugurate its cultural arm, the "Programa Lumbera para sa Filipinong Humanidades" (Lumbera Program in the Filipino Humanities), and launch its website www.lumbera.ph today, 3:30 p.m., at the Pulungang Recto, Bulwagang Rizal, College of Arts and Letters, UP Diliman.

Established in honor of the venerable scholar, Ramon Magsasay Awardee, and University Professor Dr. Bienvenido Lumbera, the program envisions a Philippine society proud of its cultural heritage and national identity.

As an institution affiliated with the Department of Filipino and Philippine Literature of the UP College of Arts and Letters, it aims to cultivate audiences for Filipino arts and culture through sponsorship of projects in literature, language, theater, m
culture
modest
and res
tives.

The
the UP
Philipp
Kultur
versity.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

novel

lick. When Morton begins to
NERF is more than what it
seemingly dies in a fiery
nwhile, people are dying
world even as strange new
(everything from wave and
generators to two-man sub-
s being procured with some
sign behind it all.
up to Kenner and his intrepid
event what may be a man-
ter of the worst kind. To do
ve to race against the clock
world, facing off against
l cannibals, amid glacier and
n envision the movie trailer

"State of Fear" is somewhat
and the excitement just sort
ut toward the end, it is an en-
ok, both because of Crich-
lant plot twists as well as the
voking premise. Indeed,
r" obviously reflects his per-
ing. He wants everyone to
e they believe what they
Michael Crichton uses his
pel people to do just even
ynical multimedia age. "It is
dern society works," some-
book says, "by the constant
ear. And there is no counter-
."

*in hardcover from National
d PowerBooks.*

writer

novels, "El amor en los
" ("Love in the Time of

at little Gabito read was
ches" ("A Thousand and
read with such intensity
aimed: *"Carajo! Este niño*
his child will be a writer.)
ement made a great im-

d to draw and to sing. In
icipated in the national
Voz de la Patria. Unfortu-
ere too high for him and,
signals, the bell sounded
nish the song. His poor
eartbroken.
n Colegio de San José,
d fame as a poet. The Je-
ublished his early efforts
"Mias Bobadas" (My Stu-
had wanted him to study
legio to learn English. But
ch Catholic, refused be-
nclave of the Lutherans
uteranos").

cía Márquez regrets the
fluent in English, the lan-
writers he admires, like
(whom he read in Span-

e North American banana
it Company, looms large in
od. A wildcat strike here
n up by the military, with
ccounted for. After the sur-
e gringos packed up and

pochal event was the as-
eral presidential candi-
948, which led to riots.
list and his brother Luis
eir lives in the streets of
ogotá, which had been
zone. A period of repres-

cía Márquez had reached
decision of his life: to be
"...en todo mi vida").
on his threat. Ahead of
h his parents (who want-
ver) lived to savor, read-
ns, and the Nobel Prize

ular decision, much ap-
thor's readers and fans,
nch President François
memory serves right, ca-
uez: *"Je vous salue avec*
e you with emotion).
Tale" is available in soft-
litions in leading book-
y.

sic, visual arts and popular
Programa Lumbera offers
funding to creative works
arches in line with its objec-

nauguration is sponsored by
Department of Filipino and
e Literature, and Kritika
of the Ateneo de Manila Uni-
all 9290113.

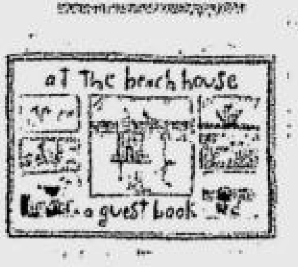
Hot summer reads

LIVE ALONE
AND LIKE IT
MARJORIE HILLIS

WHETHER you prefer the laid-back lifestyle or the fast-paced scene, you can keep cool this summer with these great reads.

- **"At the Beach House–A Guest Book" by Sandy Gingrass, Down the Shore Publishing**

This charming book doesn't just let visitors chronicle their names, arrival and departure dates but also includes room for entries on weather conditions, activities and special moments that were shared during their stay. Simple illustrations and a pocket for photographs and mementos make this book a must-have for the foyer table of beach homes all across the Philippines.

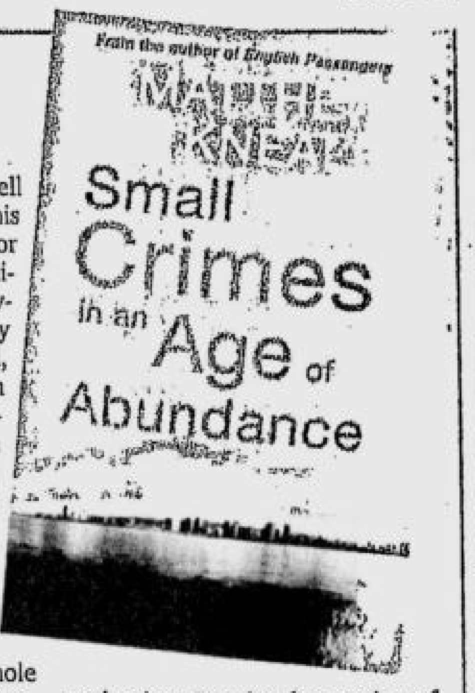


- **"Small Crimes in an Age of Abundance" by Matthew Kneale, Picador, 277 pages**

The latest work by the author of the award-winning "English Passengers" is a set of 12 short pieces, each one providing a glimpse into the lives of ordinary people from different parts of the globe. As each main character tries to make his or her mark in an uncertain world, all end up making decisions that change the course of their lives.

- **"Bohemian Manifesto: A Field Guide to Living on the Edge" by Laren Stover, Bulfinch, 271 pages**

The author of "The Bombshell Manual of Style" is back with this beautifully illustrated, full-color glossy book dedicated to bohemians and wannabe bohemians everywhere. Stover discusses every aspect of the lifestyle in detail, with examples and quotes from famous figures such as Jack Kerouac, Pablo Picasso and the late Hunter S. Thompson. Nine case studies round out the selection.



- **"Live Alone and Like It" by Marjorie Hillis, Virago, 154 pages**

It's been a long time since the term "old maid" was last heard. These days, there is a whole new culture that celebrates the status of an unattached woman. This "Classic Guide for the Single Woman" was originally published in 1936 and reprinted with a new introduction. Despite the passing of 69 years and numerous changes in the way women are perceived today, much of this slim pink volume still applies.

Pangako ko,
kinabukasan mo
PHILAM PLANS
Pangako
Education Plan

Edukasyon ang tunay na kayamanang mabibigay mo sa kanya. Sa **Philam Plans Pangako Education Plan**, sigurado ka na may pamana ka para sa kinabukasan niya!

Ang **Pangako Education Plan** ay:

Abot-kaya. Sa P40 lang bawat araw, kasyang-kasya ito sa budget mo!

Mapagkakatiwalaan. May siguradong educational funds na mabibigay sa iyong anak para matupad ang ambisyon niya!

Sigurado. Ang Philam Plans ay suportado ng **Philam Life**, ang No. 1 insurance company sa Pilipinas, at **AIG**, isa sa pinakamalaking financial services company sa buong mundo!
Ito ang pangako sa pamilya mo ng PHILAM PLANS. Para makasiguro ka sa edukasyon ng anak mo, **tumawag agad sa 5285-2001**

Nakikiisa sa Pamilyang Pilipino

AIG A Member Company of American International Group, Inc.

PHILAM PLANS

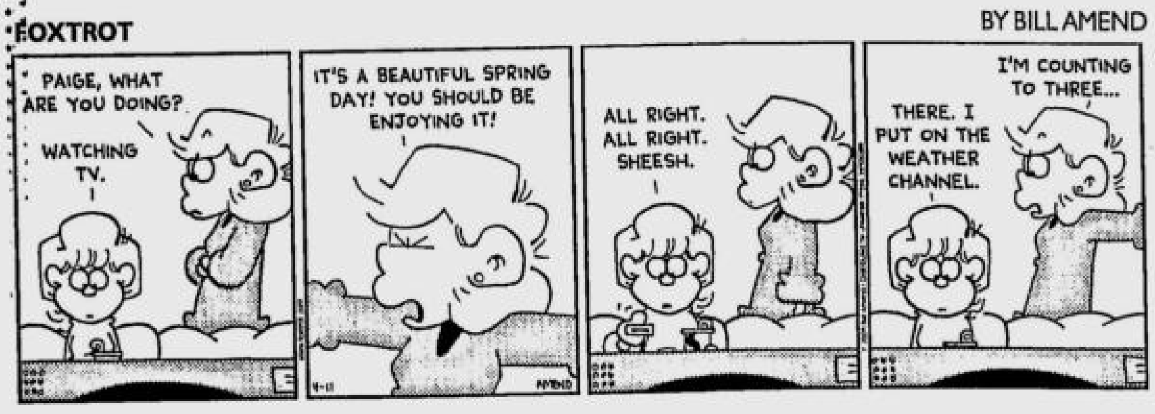
The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management Pre-Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Processing Service • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Service

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ComicRelief

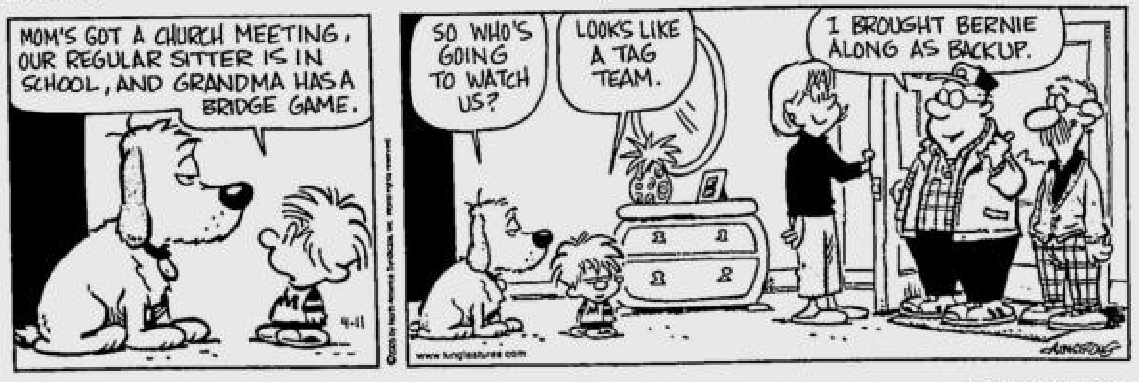
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


PAIGE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WATCHING TV.
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SPRING DAY! YOU SHOULD BE ENJOYING IT!
ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT. SHEESH.
I'M COUNTING TO THREE...
THERE. I PUT ON THE WEATHER CHANNEL.

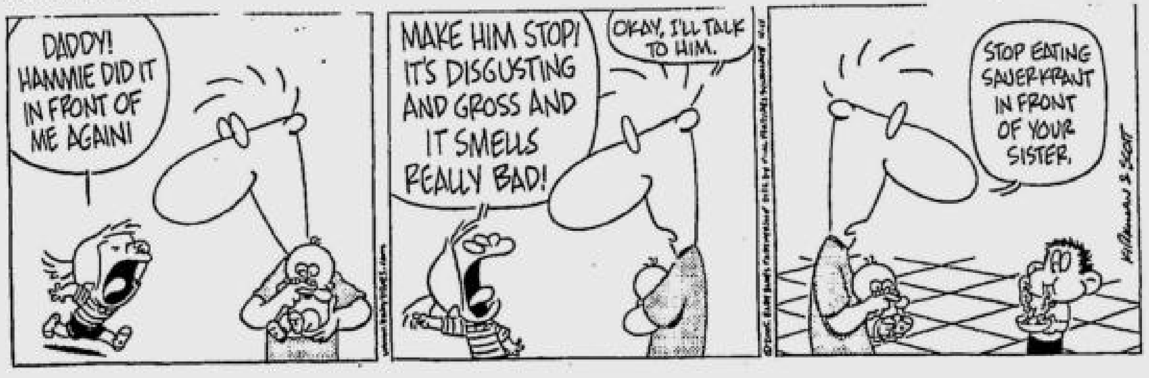
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


MOM'S GOT A CHURCH MEETING, OUR REGULAR SITTER IS IN SCHOOL, AND GRANDMA HAS A BRIDGE GAME.
SO WHO'S GOING TO WATCH US?
LOOKS LIKE A TAG TEAM.
I BROUGHT BERNIE ALONG AS BACKUP.

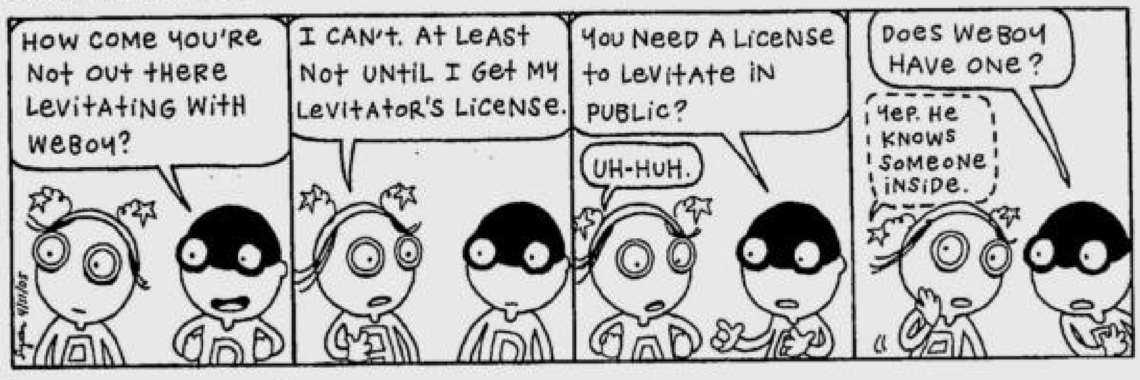
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


DADDY! HAMMIE DID IT IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN!
MAKE HIM STOP! IT'S DISGUSTING AND GROSS AND IT SMELLS REALLY BAD!
OKAY, I'LL TALK TO HIM.
STOP EATING SAUERKRAUT IN FRONT OF YOUR SISTER.

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


How come you're not out there levitating with Weboy?
I can't. At least not until I get my levitator's license.
You need a license to levitate in public?
UH-HUH.
Does Weboy have one?
Yep. He knows someone inside.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are diplomatic. You're skilled with words and dealing with people. You love to be the center of action and attention. Despite this, you're an excellent team player as well. Because of your fabulous social skills, you know how to bring others together to work in cooperation. It's important to work, build and construct this year for rewards in 2006.

Birthdate of: Peter Riegert, actor; Joss Stone, singer; Joel Grey, performer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Be very patient with parents and family members today, because you will feel squelched by them for some reason. Don't push the river. Try to avoid arguments.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): It's very easy to worry too much today or to fall into negative thinking. This is just a passing dark cloud on your horizon. Relax.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): It's a curious thing that we can sometimes feel richer or poorer, and it has nothing to do with money. It seems to be in our mind. This is one of those days when you feel broke. (Don't worry.)

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Authority figures are definitely tough to deal with today. Don't stick your neck out. Be cool.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Avoid arguments about political and religious matters. Quit trying to make your point or prove something. Today is not the day!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You feel unhappy about how something is shared or divided among others. You might feel that you got short shrift. Wait a few days to see if things change.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Disagreements with partners and authority figures are practically unavoidable today. Whatever you propose could be blocked. Therefore, wait for another opportunity to act.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): It's a bit of a hard slog at work today. You feel like you're back in the salt mines. Tomorrow is much better. We all get days like this at times; just cope as best you can.

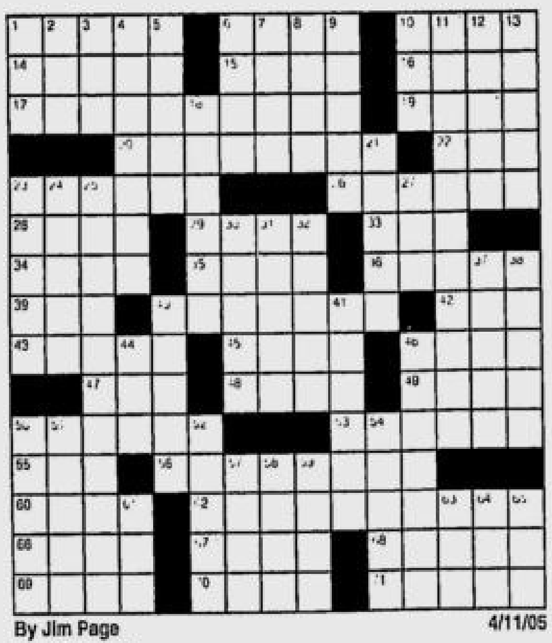
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Don't worry about creative projects that seem to be stalled in the water right now. By tomorrow things look more promising! Do not be discouraged.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Family members are tough to deal with today. Whatever you propose is shot down or criticized. (In fact, might you be doing some of this yourself? Lighten up.)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Worry is actually a habit. Try to take a more positive outlook on things today. By tomorrow they are definitely improved! (The sky is not falling.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Hold tight to your money today. Don't worry about bills. Things look a bit bleak today, but by tomorrow the picture changes. The government and authority figures seem to stand in the way of things right now.

DAILY CROSSWORD



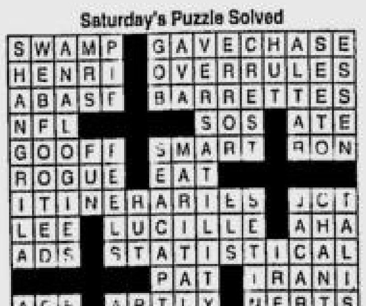
By Jim Page
New York, NY

4/11/05

ACROSS
1 Bivouacs
6 Terrible fate
10 Formerly, formerly
14 Stop a rocket shot
15 Rombauer of cookbooks
16 Ceremonial act
17 Trip around the moon
19 Soon
20 Tight march formation
22 Neon or argon
23 Play text
26 Very decorated
28 North Carolina university
29 Numbered musical piece
33 Feel ill
34 Lecher
35 __ up (restrained)
36 Object
39 Mil. branch
40 Electrical path
42 __ de cologne
43 Current events sources
45 Northern Scandinavian
46 Lendl of tennis
47 10th month
48 Fencer's foil
49 Price of golf
50 Stood up to
53 Uppermost forest layer
55 Crone
56 Identical
60 Small bit
62 All the way around
66 Fleck or Bartok
67 Kind of code
68 Ashcan School painter John
69 Dope or skinny
70 United force
71 Links up chronologically

DOWN
1 Infielder Ripken
2 With 50D, U.A.E. capital
3 Sun. follower
4 Pecan candy
5 Edge maker
6 Actor Bogarde
7 Spheres
8 Fail to include
9 San __, CA
10 Bullpen stat
11 Kid's running game
12 Brown ermine
13 On edge
18 Couple with sixteen arms?
21 Brooklyn art school
23 Medicinal fluid
24 Chummy
25 Eighteen holes
27 U.S. medical center
30 Hostess Mesta
31 Open a Sprite
32 Warm compress
37 Image Award grp.
38 Like oil-filter ooze
40 Actress Phoebe
41 Emetic medication
44 Here in France
46 In a spiritual manner
50 See 2D
51 Consumed
52 Skim the soup
54 Out of whack
57 Angling plug
58 Pooch pest
59 Close with a bang
61 Chinese Chairman
63 Pro challenger
64 Fond du __, WI
65 Punner's duo?

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

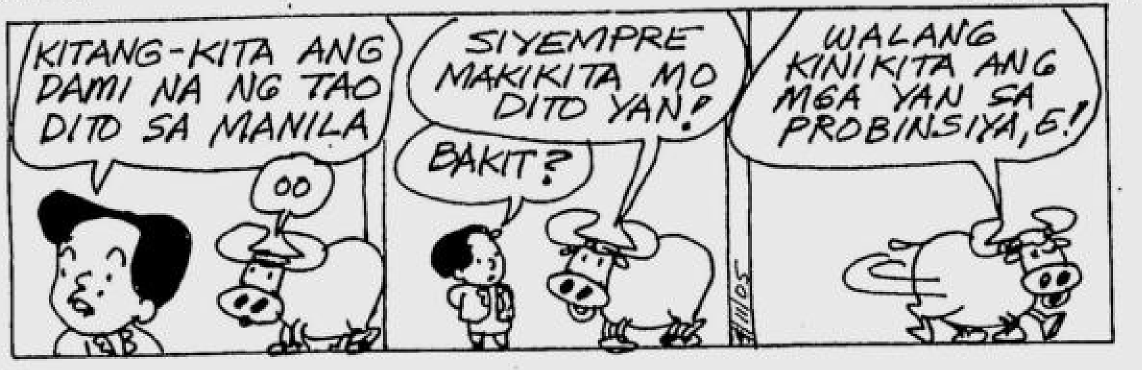

SWAMP GAVECHASE
HENRI OVERRULES
ABASE BARRETTES
NFL SOS ATE
GOOFF SMART RON
ROGUE EAT
ITINERARIES JCT
LEE LUCILLE AHA
ADS STATISTICAL
PAT IRANI
ACE APTLY NERTS
ALL BEA ARM
RADIATIVE SONIA
GREATENED AUDEN
HARNESSES CRASS

(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved

4/11/05

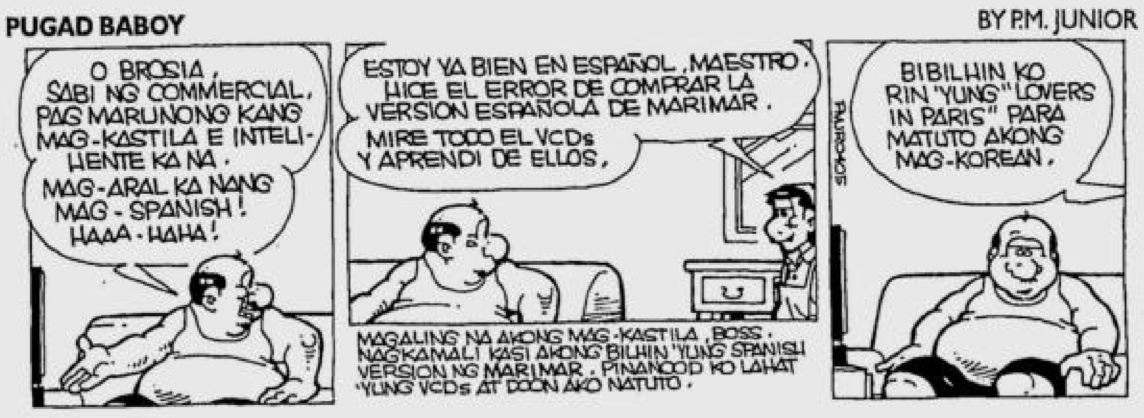
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


KITANG-KITA ANG DAMI NA NG TAO DITO SA MANILA
OO
SIYEMPRE MAKIKITA MO DITO YAN!
BAKIT?
WALANG KINIKITA ANG MGA YAN SA PROBINSIYA, E!

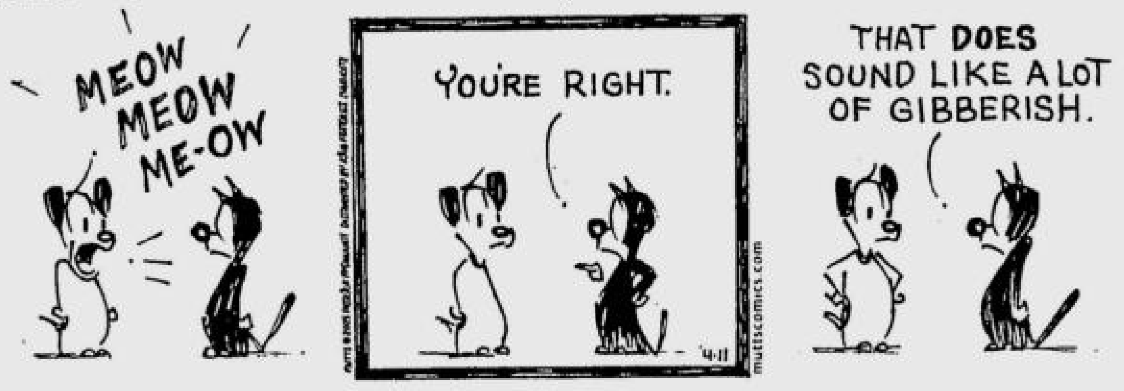
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


O BROSIA, SABI NG COMMERCIAL, PAG MARUNONG KANG MAG-KASTILA E INTELIHENTE KA NA. MAG-ARAL KA NANG MAG-SPANISH! HAAA-HAHA!
ESTOY YA BIEN EN ESPAÑOL, MAESTRO. HICE EL ERROR DE COMPRAR LA VERSION ESPAÑOLA DE MARIMAR.
MIRE TODO EL VCDs Y APRENDI DE ELLOS.
MAGALING NA AKONG MAG-KASTILA, BOSS. NAGKAMALI KASI AKONG BILHIN 'YUNG SPANISH VERSION NG MARIMAR. PINANOOD KO LAHAT 'YUNG VCDs AT DOON AKO NATUTO.
BIBILHIN KO RIN 'YUNG "LOVERS IN PARIS" PARA MATUTO AKONG MAG-KOREAN.

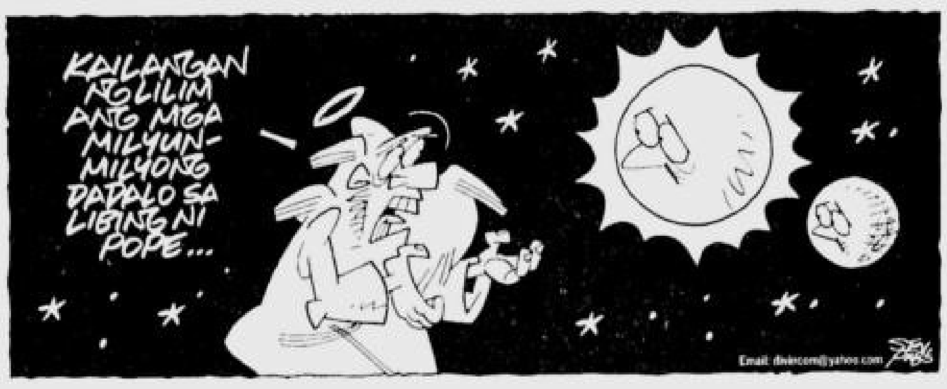
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


MEOW MEOW ME-OW
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THAT DOES SOUND LIKE A LOT OF GIBBERISH.
muttscomics.com

DIVINE COMEDY

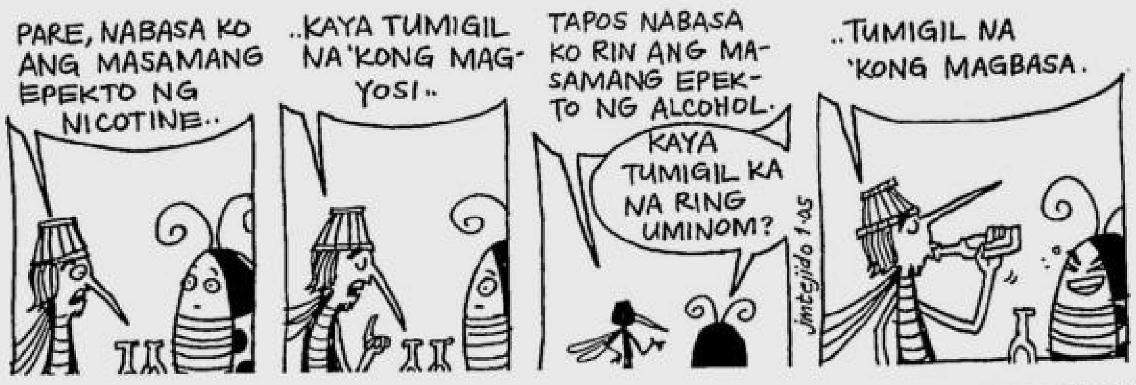
BY STEVEN PABALINAS


KAILANGAN NG LILIM ANG MGA MILYUN-MILYONG DADALO SA LIBING NI POPE...
Email: divicom@yahoo.com

MAGKAKAROON NG SOLAR ECLIPSE SA LIBING NG SANTO PAPA

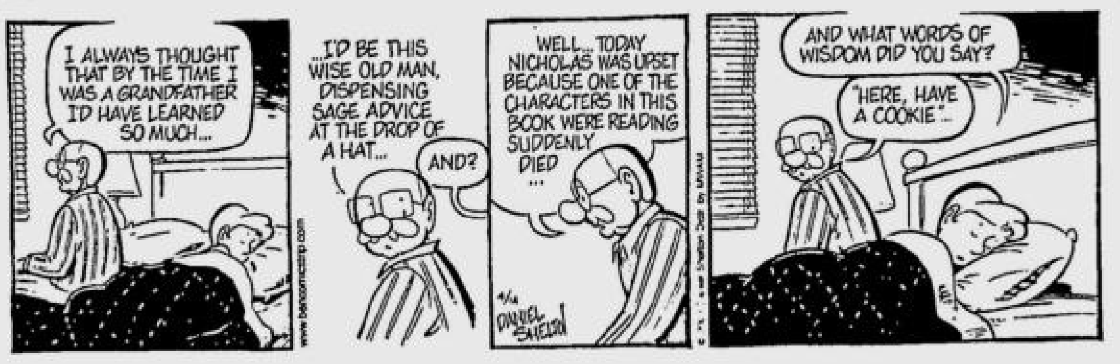
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


PARE, NABASA KO ANG MASAMANG EPEKTO NG NICOTINE..
..KAYA TUMIGIL NA'KONG MAG-YOSI..
TAPOS NABASA KO RIN ANG MASAMANG EPEKTO NG ALCOHOL.
KAYA TUMIGIL KA NA RING UMINOM?
..TUMIGIL NA 'KONG MAGBASA.

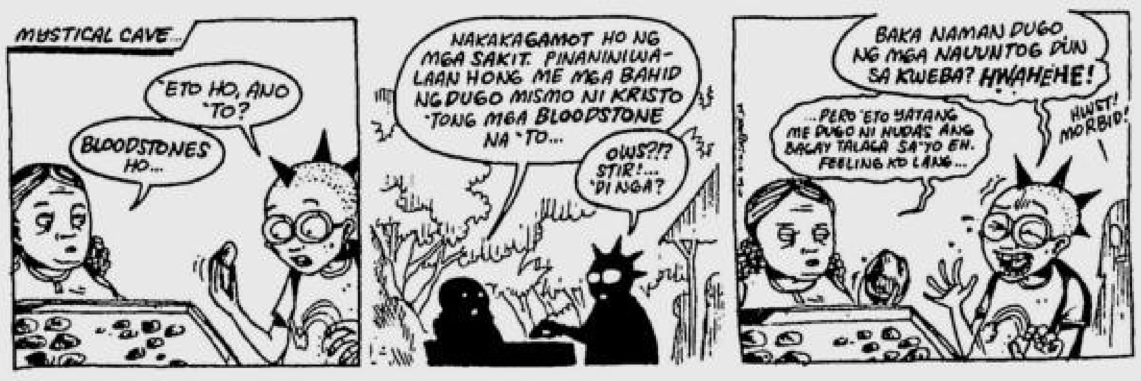
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT BY THE TIME I WAS A GRANDFATHER I'D HAVE LEARNED SO MUCH...
...I'D BE THIS WISE OLD MAN, DISPENSING SAGE ADVICE AT THE DROP OF A HAT...
AND?
WELL... TODAY NICHOLAS WAS UPSET BECAUSE ONE OF THE CHARACTERS IN THIS BOOK WERE READING SUDDENLY DIED ...
AND WHAT WORDS OF WISDOM DID YOU SAY?
"HERE, HAVE A COOKIE"...

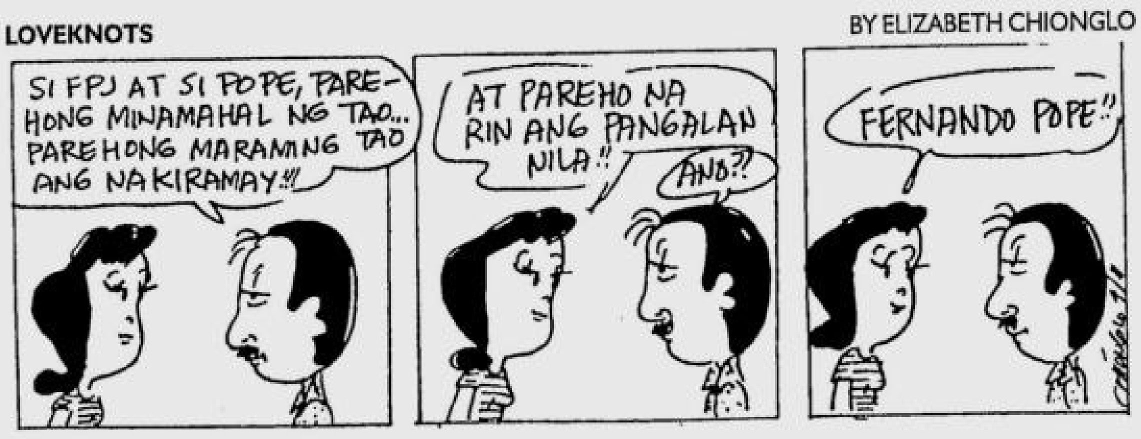
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


MYSTICAL CAVE...
'ETO HO, ANO 'TO?
BLOODSTONES HO...
NAKAKAGAMOT HO NG MGA SAKIT. PINANINIWALAAN HONG ME MGA BAHID NG DUGO MISMO NI KRISTO 'TONG MGA BLOODSTONE NA 'TO...
OWS?!? STIR!... 'DI NGA?
BAKA NAMAN DUGO NG MGA NAUUNTOG DUN SA KWEBA? HWAHEHE!
...PERO 'ETO YATANG ME DUGO NI HUDAS ANG BAGAY TALAGA SA'YO EH. FEELING KO LANG...
HWET! MORBID!

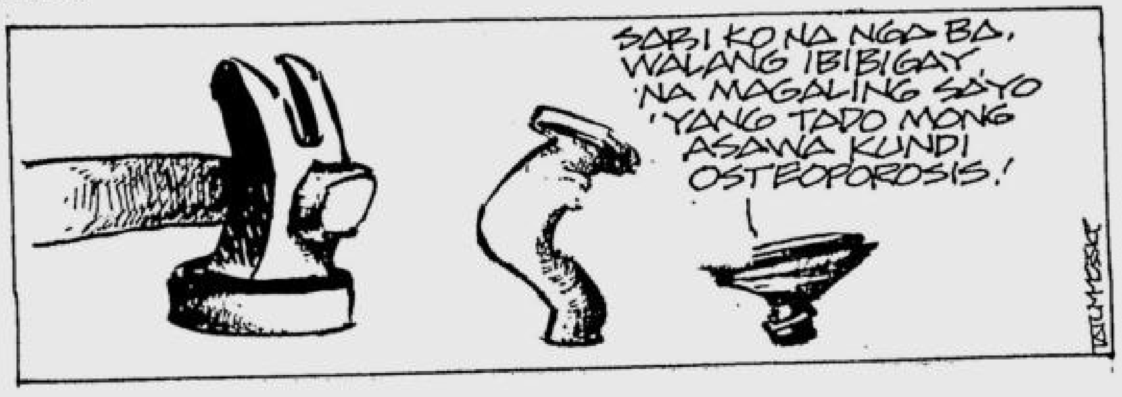
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


SI FPJ AT SI POPE, PAREHONG MINAMAHAL NG TAO... PAREHONG MARAMING TAO ANG NAKIRAMAY!!!
AT PAREHO NA RIN ANG PANGALAN NILA!!
ANO?!
FERNANDO POPE!!

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


SABI KO NA NGA BA, WALANG IBIBIGAY NA MAGALING SA'YO 'YANG TADO MONG ASAWA KUNDI OSTEOPOROSIS!

Dumaguete does 'Vagina,' one last time

By Ian Rosales Casocot
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE may be, in the words of playwright Eve Ensler, the most "vagina-friendly" city in the Philippines. For the fourth year in a row—and in what may be its last staging—it saw the benefit performance of Ensler's groundbreaking play, and in turn, helped smash some stereotypes about the place of women in Philippine society and raised awareness and funds for local organizations working to end violence against women and girls.

JACKIE Veloso-Antonio talks vagina workshops in TVM 2004.

It hadn't always been easy for the people behind the show.

When people first hear about "The Vagina Monologues," they immediately think of several things. First, that it must necessarily be obscene and virtually pornographic—after all, it has the word "vagina" in the title. Second, that it is controversial. And third, that it cannot be appropriate—and the usual complaint that comes with that reason is this: "It may be worthwhile, but I don't think our community is ready for it."

Which is sad, because ultimately, TVM is none of the above, two out of three. Yes, it is controversial—but that is a given, considering the taboo over the subject matter: the vagina—"a body part that, thirty years after the sexual revolution, people are still embarrassed about naming aloud."

Nobody talks about the vagina, and renowned critic and feminist Gloria Steinem, in her introduction to Ensler's book, rightly put it when she referred to that culture of stultifying silence by calling herself as a relic of the "Down There Generation." In soft parlance, the best way we refer to it is through strange euphemisms like "flower." Since language is primarily an expression of oneself, this culture of silence is by virtue an imprisonment of identity, a socially-approved denigration of a gender, and a culturally constructed shaming of the natural.

It is neither obscene nor pornographic. What it is about really is women's—and humanity's—liberation from machinations of discreet evil that can produce, for one, such accepted practices as vaginal mutilation in the form of clitoral circumcision that is tolerated and practiced widely in many societies in the world. What Ensler does in TVM is to present voices of women's oppression, and does it through the one thing that symbolizes and unites them—the vagina, and talks about the symbolic persecution of their gender—the silencing of discourse about the vagina.

It is frank, it is enlightening, it is explicit, and it is occasionally erotic, but it is never pornographic. Unless, of course, one finds the sketch of a Somalian woman being raped in a camp ("... they took turns for seven days... smelling like feces and smoked meat, they left their dirty sperm inside me..."), or a traumatic tale of vaginal circumcision vaguely sexually arousing.

It is not inappropriate, but it is necessarily discomforting. Yet that happens when a community—especially one that is, by choice, closed off from enlightening discourse in the name of misplaced conservatism—encounters something that has been culturally submerged and swept aside for "decency." But there is nothing indecent about a play that only seeks to instruct and to educate, and to placate long-held notions of female oppression.

When plans were being discussed to import The New Voice Company's local production in Dumaguete City in 2000, the initial reaction was a mixture of excitement, titillation, amusement and hesitation. The organizers—led by Silliman University's Bing Valbuena—faced brickbats by moralizers who deemed the whole enterprise "a parade of porn." For the last three years, and every year in commemoration of Woman's Month, they seem to have weathered the criticisms and hindrances.

Those who were hesitant were invariably people who turned out to not have heard of the play or of Ensler before—or were sadly uncomprehending in the prison of their literalness. "Vagina," they read, and immediately think of the ugly and the gross. They were hesitant, even horrified, over the word 'vagina' in the title. "Can't you just change the word in the title? Like 'The V Monologues' or something?" they would suggest.

"They did not comprehend that the word 'vagina' was the sum and substance of the play. To change the title was also essentially running counter to the message of the play," Ms. Valbuena said.

Did Dumaguete City deserve to see "The Vagina Monologues" again, in commemoration of V-Day? "Without doubt, it did, if it is an academic community that thrives on liberation and on respect of women," says Ms. Valbuena. "To admire Ensler's efforts may be the true reflection of all we long to be as a community: transparent, intelligent, respectful, enlightened, always surging forward to the pursuit of understanding what makes all of us human."

SISTER Nieves Valdes (seated) with Felicitas "Tita" Layag Radaic

"SLEEPING Beauty" rehearsal. Sofia Radaic with young soloists from the school

'Sleeping Beauty': Tribute to nun who awakened dormant dance art

DID YOU know that a ban on ballet was imposed in 1955 on students of Catholic girls' schools? It took two Catholic sisters to put an end to the ban.

In 1962, Sister Hilde, the avant-garde Belgian principal at St. Theresa's College in Manila, asked Felicitas "Tita" Layag Radaic to choreograph and direct a dance-drama called "Canticle of Love."

"Canticle of Love" was actually a ballet, and it reaped enthusiastic praise. No mention was made anywhere of the school's defiance of the ballet ban.

Three years later, for its golden jubilee, a bolder St. Theresa's commissioned Alice Reyes to direct "Te Deum," the life and times of St. Teresa of Avila in dance. Tita had flown to London by then.

In both these productions, Sister Hilde's closest collaborator had been Sister Nieves Valdes, whose academic field, like hers, was literature.

To this day, the Filipino nun acknowledges that the Belgian sister taught her a deep appreciation of the arts and the intricacies of stage production. Sister Hilde also paved the way for a crucial decision that Sister Nieves would make in 1967.

That year, for Sister Nieves' first act as principal of St. Theresa's Manila, she invited Tita Radaic to come home from London and open a ballet studio on the San Marcelino campus.

Tita said yes, but first she had to take the advanced examination with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD). She passed the test and came home the following year.

The STC School of Ballet was opened in 1968 in what used to be a roof garden in one of the school buildings. The response was overwhelming—Tita had 120 students the first year. Other Catholic schools for girls soon offered ballet classes as well.

Also in 1968, the Royal Academy of Dance Philippine Center was set up, its base at STC. Tita started a training program using the RAD syllabus and RAD London sent examiners to the Philippines.

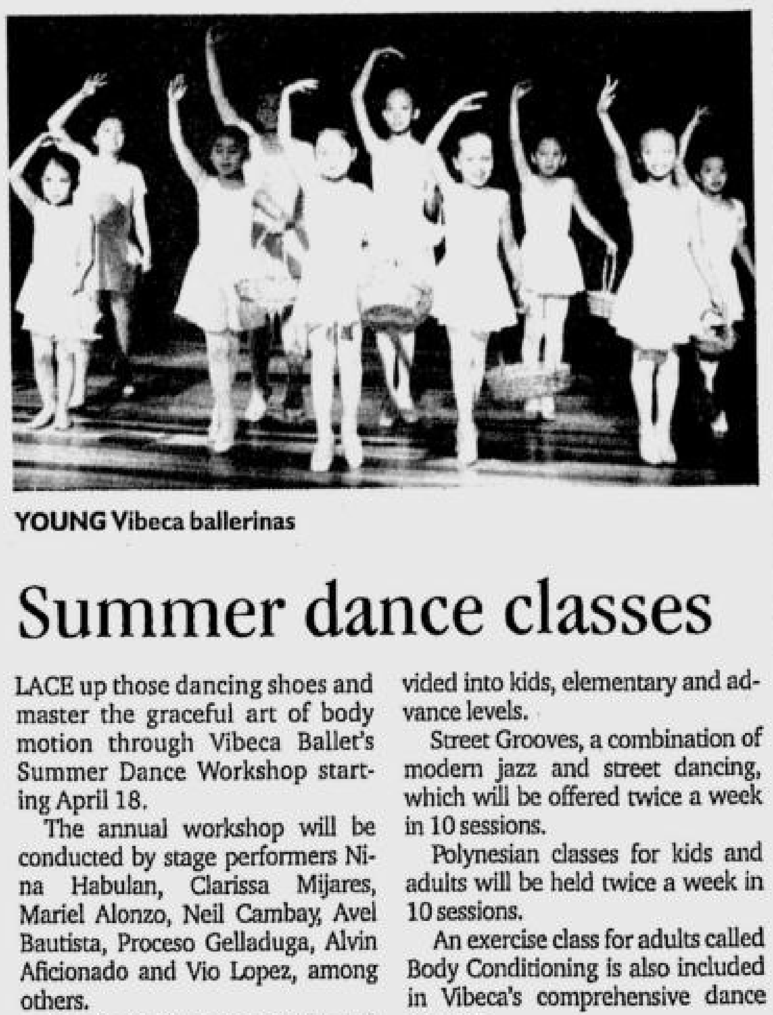
When STC-Manila was closed in the early 1980s, Tita moved both school and center to STC in Quezon City. There, young girls like Lisa Macuja and Anna Villadolid got their start in ballet and went on to conquer the world.

Tita's friend and benefactor Sister Nieves, meanwhile, was placed in charge of the ICM sisters' museum and girls' dormitory in Bontoc and stayed there for 16 years. Since leaving Bontoc a few years ago, she has been in "retirement" at her congregation's Queen of Peace convent in Quezon City.

On April 13 at 8 p.m., Sister Nieves, now 83, will be at the Main Theater of the Cultural Center of the Philippines for a special reason: Tita and her dancers and students will be staging the full-length "Sleeping Beauty" as a tribute to her.

Sister Nieves confesses to feeling "embarrassed" and protests that a tribute is not necessary. To which Tita replies, "It is necessary. We must make young people realize that you don't just dance; somebody started it all for you."

And dance they will.



YOUNG Vibeca ballerinas

Summer dance classes

LACE up those dancing shoes and master the graceful art of body motion through Vibeca Ballet's Summer Dance Workshop starting April 18.

The annual workshop will be conducted by stage performers Nina Habulan, Clarissa Mijares, Mariel Alonzo, Neil Cambay, Avel Bautista, Proceso Gelladuga, Alvin Aficionado and Vio Lopez, among others.

Classical ballet lessons will be offered thrice a week in 15 sessions while modern ballet classes will be held twice a week in 10 sessions.

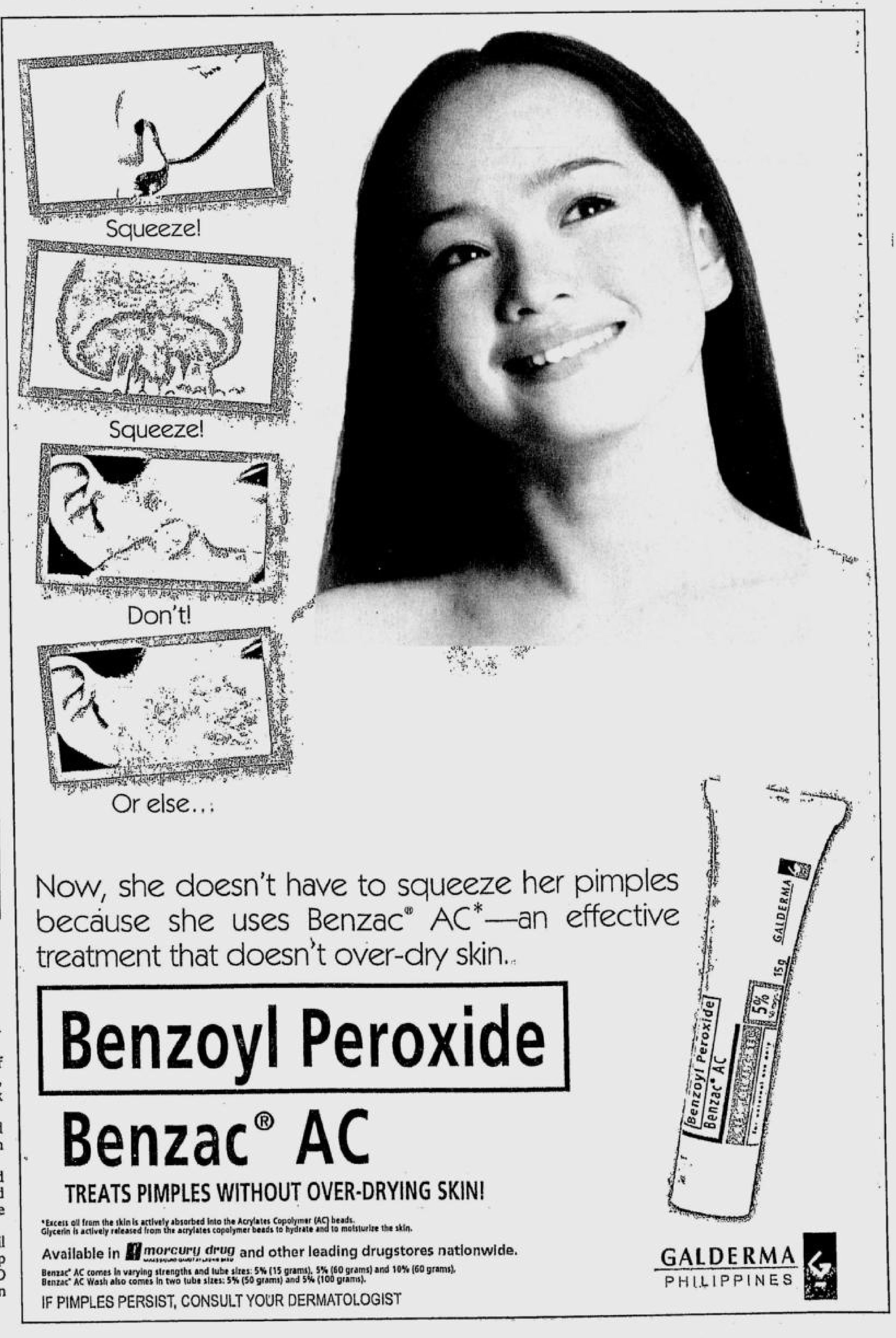
Jazz lessons will be given twice a week in 10 consecutive sessions, divided into kids, elementary and advance levels.

Street Grooves, a combination of modern jazz and street dancing, which will be offered twice a week in 10 sessions.

Polynesian classes for kids and adults will be held twice a week in 10 sessions.

An exercise class for adults called Body Conditioning is also included in Vibeca's comprehensive dance courses.

Enrollment is ongoing until April 17. Interested students can sign up at Vibeca Ballet located at AMO Bldg., 92 New York St., Quezon City. Call 9957441 or 9126781.



Now, she doesn't have to squeeze her pimples because she uses Benzac® AC*—an effective treatment that doesn't over-dry skin.

Benzoyl Peroxide
Benzac® AC
TREATS PIMPLES WITHOUT OVER-DRYING SKIN!

*Excess oil from the skin is actively absorbed into the Acrylates Copolymer (AC) beads.
Glycerin is actively released from the acrylates copolymer beads to hydrate and to moisturize the skin.

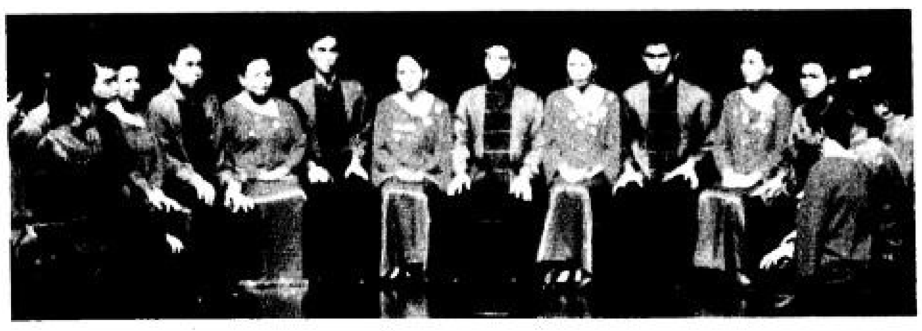
Available in mercury drug and other leading drugstores nationwide.

Benzac® AC comes in varying strengths and tube sizes: 5% (15 grams), 5% (60 grams) and 10% (60 grams).
Benzac® AC Wash also comes in two tube sizes: 5% (50 grams) and 5% (100 grams).

IF PIMPLES PERSIST, CONSULT YOUR DERMATOLOGIST

GALDERMA PHILIPPINES

Madrigal Singers in CCP concert

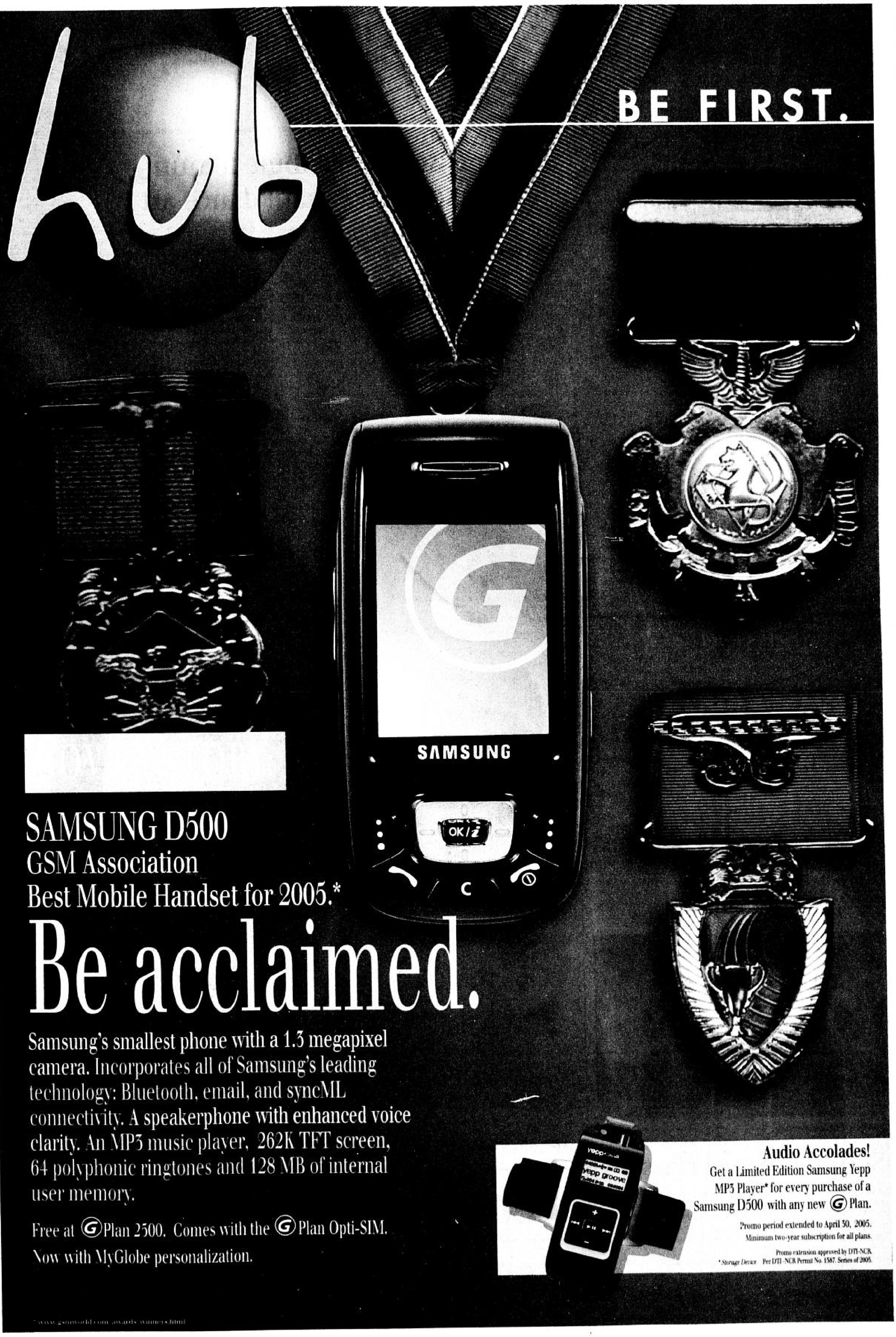


The world-renowned Philippine Madrigal Singers (Madz) will be holding its first major concert for 2005 at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo or CCP Main Theater, Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) on April 23 and 24, 8 p.m.

Entitled "Acclamation!," the concert is a celebration of life and rebirth. The repertoire includes inspirational songs and spirituals. A portion of the proceeds of the concert will be donated to the Fr. Rhoel Gallardo Scholarship Foundation and Claret School of Quezon City Mangyan Mission.

"Acclamation!" is the first in-house production of Shapes, Shades, and Sounds and is co-presented by the CCP and the Lifestyle Network.

Call 8321125, 4348672, 7898554 or 0920-8688129.



SAMSUNG D500
GSM Association
Best Mobile Handset for 2005.*

Be acclaimed.

Samsung's smallest phone with a 1.3 megapixel camera. Incorporates all of Samsung's leading technology: Bluetooth, email, and syncML connectivity. A speakerphone with enhanced voice clarity. An MP3 music player, 262K TFT screen, 64 polyphonic ringtones and 128 MB of internal user memory.

Free at G Plan 2500. Comes with the G Plan Opti-SIM.
Now with MyGlobe personalization.

Audio Accolades!
Get a Limited Edition Samsung Yepp MP3 Player* for every purchase of a Samsung D500 with any new G Plan.

Promo period extended to April 30, 2005.
Minimum two-year subscription for all plans.

Promo extension approved by DTI-NCR.
* Storage Device Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1587. Series of 2005.

*www.gsmworld.com/awards/winners.html

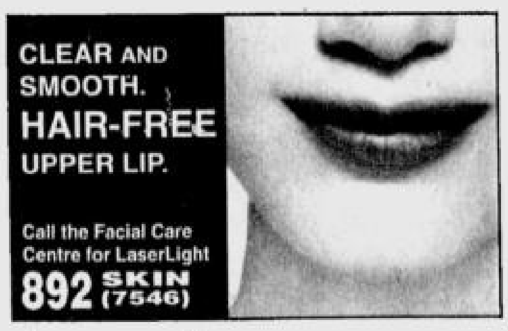
Get the genuine unit only at the HUB. Rockwell. Greenbelt. Glorietta. The Podium. Greenhills www.hub-eshop.com

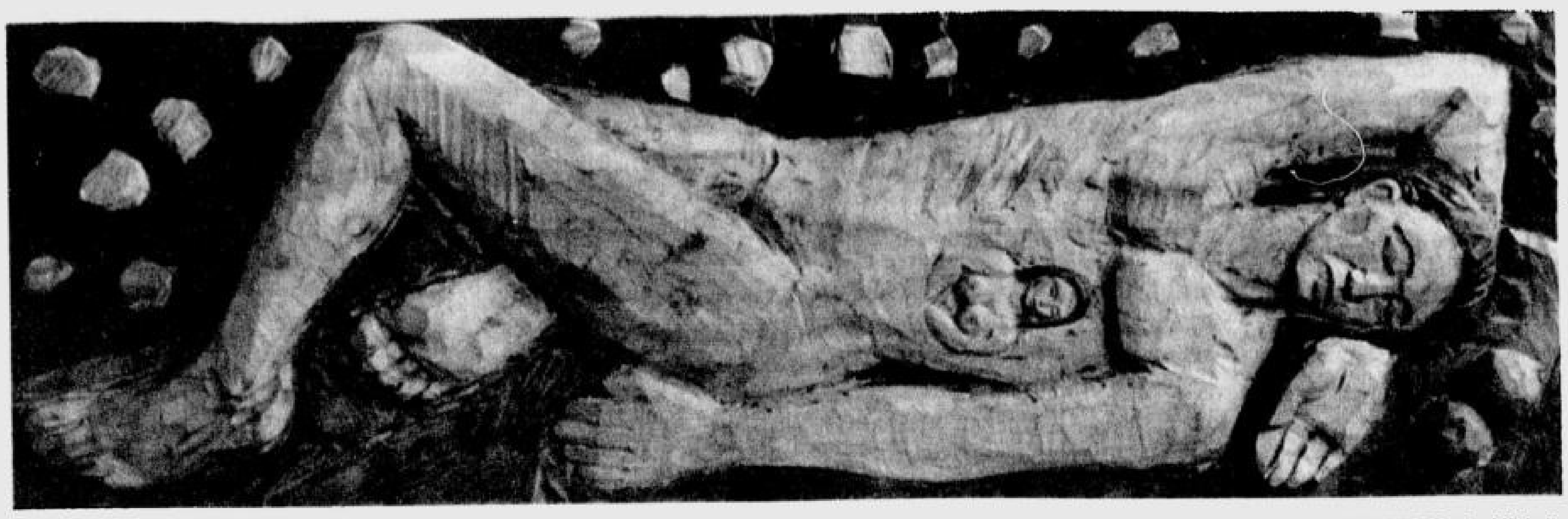
SAMSUNG Globe HANDYPHONE

LifeStyle

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)


CLEAR AND SMOOTH.
HAIR-FREE UPPER LIP.
Call the Facial Care Centre for LaserLight
892 SKIN (7546)



"FERTILE Is the Night"

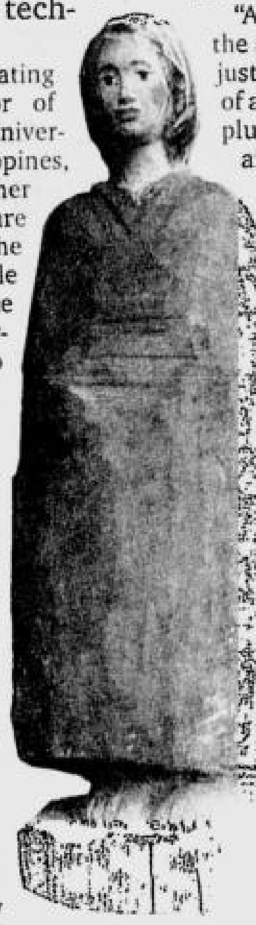
Assimilating influences from both East and West, Duddley Diaz produces art that's visually related to Gauguin's yet indigenously Filipino

Creation myths and miraculous births in metal and wood

By Constantino C. Tejero

DUDDLEY Diaz, the Filipino sculptor based in Italy, is once again in the country to showcase his peculiar art marrying Western and Asiatic themes and motifs, styles and techniques.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from University of the Philippines, Diaz took up further studies in sculpture and painting at the Academia di Belle Arti in Florence and at the Vermont Studio Center in the United States.



"ANDROGYNE"

Assimilating influences from both East and West, he produces art that's visually related to Gauguin's yet indigenously Filipino, even somewhat proto-Malay. (Conversely, Gauguin drew inspiration from motifs of Pacific islanders but had not totally submerged his European sophistication.)

Diaz's primitivist art is richly showcased in the exhibit "Once upon a Time," until April 13 in Galleria Duemila, L/4, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

"I have always wanted to talk about life and the mysteries surrounding it," says the artist. "That is why you will see stories of creation, pregnant goddesses and miraculous births."

There are eight sculptural pieces in wood (African mahogany, poplar, linden) stained with acrylic, some dark-toned with beeswax. Except for "Androgyne," a three-dimensional figure with a celestial face and robed in azure, these pieces are in relief.

The folk motifs and robust human figures can no more be fittingly interpreted than in roughhewn polychrome hardwood as here. (The ingenious technique, resulting in powerful images, is, of course, descended from Rodin's "unfinished" sculptures.)

In "Flying Figure over a Starry Night," Diaz uses the simplest composition and form—no more than circular shapes to represent the celestial bodies and a swooping angel—to convey the vitality and dynamism of hurtling meteorites and falling stars.

"Amansinaya" is related to the above in composition, and just as dynamic in its imagery of a brown naked female form plumbing the green depths and grasping at the reddish-brown fishes.

Fertility and origin

Form takes a bizarre turn with "Mebuyan," a stunning depiction of the Ifugao goddess of fertility looking like a giant pineapple or corn cob. The Earth Mother, covered with mammary glands swelling and dripping with milk, stands on a rice mortar, while hovering around are her messengers, the owls.

"Queen Maya" shows the pregnant Indian queen clinging to a tree branch as she gives birth to the Buddha, while the hands of deities catch the infant before it can fall to the ground. Here the voluptuousness of the female form would seem to cancel the mystic nature of the birthing.

In "Fertile Is the Night," a brown naked male form lies supine on the green ground

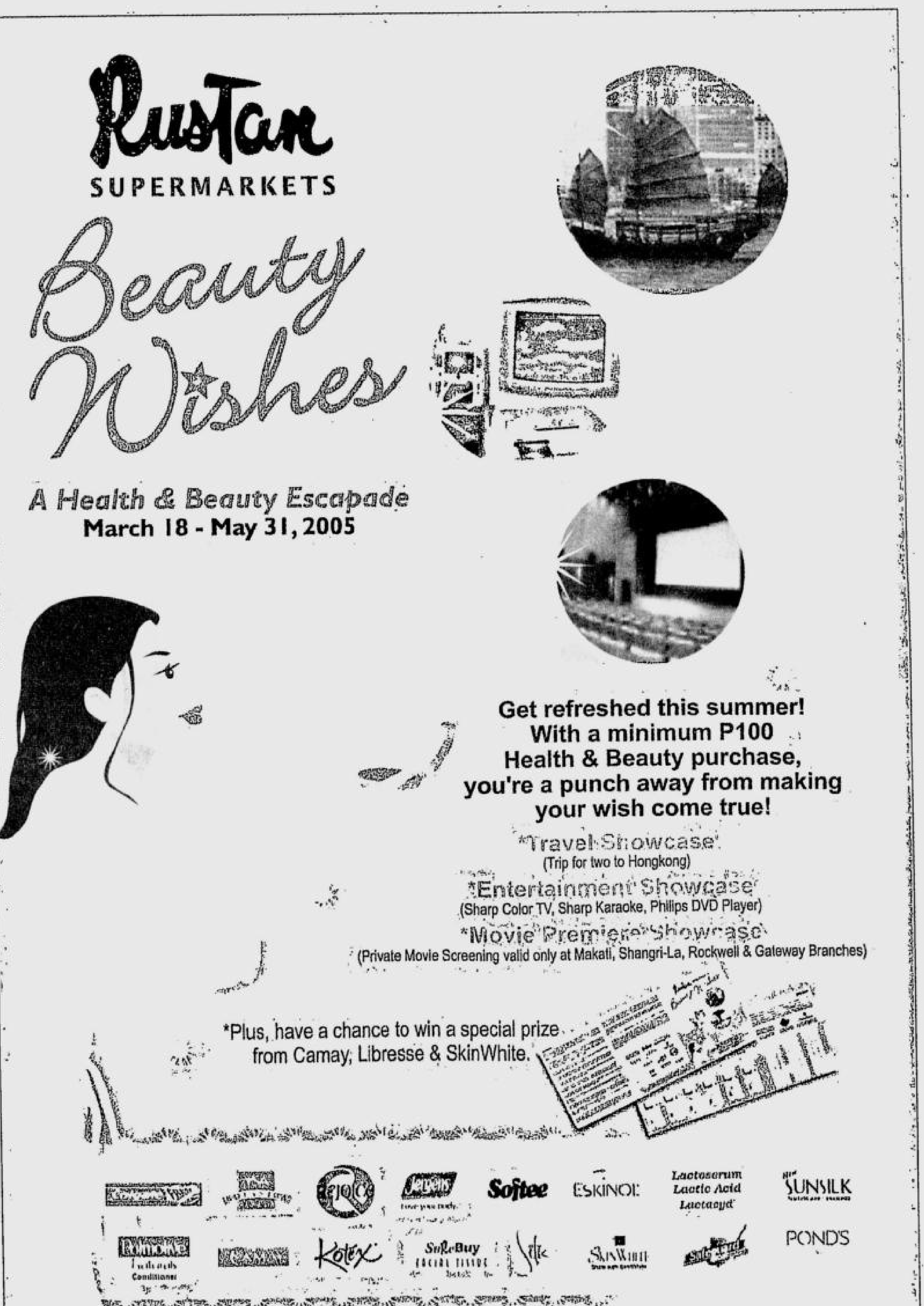
CREATION/ D2

First Pinnacle
TEAKWOOD
collection

Wood has that warm and sensual feel, with a special soft touch.
For you, First Pinnacle has selected the finest teak furniture for your everyday comfort and pleasure.
Come & visit our showroom, and let your imagination guide you

VISIT OUR NEW SHOWROOM AT MARKET! MARKET!
TC-329, 3/L, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig
Showroom 1: 4/L, bes. Gameworx, Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang
Tels.: (02) 771-0857 • 807-8571
Main Office: 60 C.B.T. Condominium, West Avenue, Quezon City
Tels.: (02) 3739797 • 4165218 - 19

Men are VAIN too...
GANG XIAN
Herbal Slimming Tea for Men
with 6 natural dietary herbs
Kankunis
Available in 30 teabags for P398.00 only
Available in 20 teabags


Rustan
SUPERMARKETS

Beauty Wishes

A Health & Beauty Escapade
March 18 - May 31, 2005

Get refreshed this summer!
With a minimum P100
Health & Beauty purchase,
you're a punch away from making
your wish come true!

*Travel Showcase
(Trip for two to Hongkong)
*Entertainment Showcase
(Sharp Color TV, Sharp Karaoke, Philips DVD Player)
*Movie Premiere Showcase
(Private Movie Screening valid only at Makati, Shangri-La, Rockwell & Gateway Branches)

*Plus, have a chance to win a special prize
from Camay, Libresse & SkinWhite.

Softee ESKINOL Lactoserum Lactic Acid Lactacyd SUNSILK POND'S Kotex SureBuy SkinWhite

Makati | Shangri-La Plaza | Rockwell | Gateway Mall, Araneta Center | San Antonio, Forbes Park | Magallanes | Greenbelt | Katipunan | All Mall
Farmers Plaza | Marikina | Ayala Alabang | Sta. Rosa, Laguna | Fairview | Star Mall | Libertad | Mercedes, Pasig | Zabarte | EDSA-Taft | Boni | Cebu

*See posters and flyers for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0850 Series of 2005

Why It Pays To Enroll With The Best

EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE
When you enroll at WCT, you get education par excellence proven by our 38 years of leadership
QUALITATIVE AND PERSONALIZED
WCT's programs are based on results which are achieved thru careful attention to the needs and strengths of each student
WCT implements international caliber standards and results
Wilma & Valerie Tapalla, mother and daughter tandem, guarantee you a dramatic change in your speech and personality

MW Classes Start Today, TTH Classes Start Tomorrow
• Speech Dynamics
Develop & Master Oral Skills
• Practical Grammar & Conversations
Fluency and Mastery of English
MW 9-11AM (Today), FRI 9-12NN (April 15)
TTH 2-4PM or TTH 6:30-8:30PM (Tomorrow)
SAT 2-5PM (April 16); SUN 9-12NN (April 17)

A program that can turn them into exceptional students
Children will eliminate shyness, learn manners, develop an attractive speech and gain independence, self esteem & confidence.
KIDDIE ACADEMY - 3 TO 12 yrs. old
• Speech Arts, Theater Arts • English Fluency • Grammar
• Reading & Comprehension • Character Bldg • Personality Dev
MW 10-12NN or 2-4PM (Today); TTH 9-11AM or 1-3PM (Tomorrow)
SAT 8:30-10:30 / 10:30-12:30NN / 2-4PM / 4-6PM (Apr 16)

• Reading & Comprehension
• Power Talking Skills
• Personality in Action
• English for Foreigners
• Glamour Ride or Finishing Course
• IELTS • TSE • TOEFL
• Training for Call Center
• Private Tutoring
• Corporate Training

WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
SINCE 1967
www.wctacademe.com

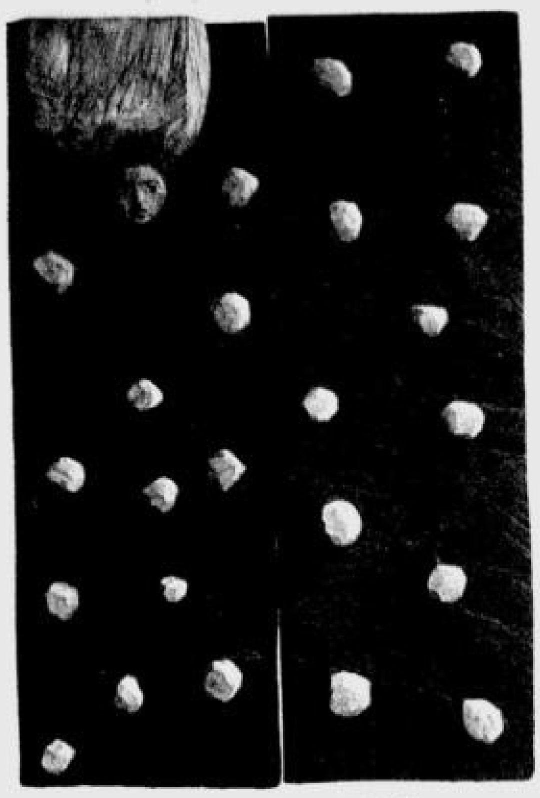
LEGARDA, SAMPALOC
2600 Rizal Hall Arellano University
736-7656
736-7657
736-7644

GREENHILLS
55 Annapolis
722-7955
723-4118
726-8768

ORTIGAS CENTER
Meralco Ave.
638-8034
or
736-7657

Creation myths and miraculous births in metal and wood

From page D1

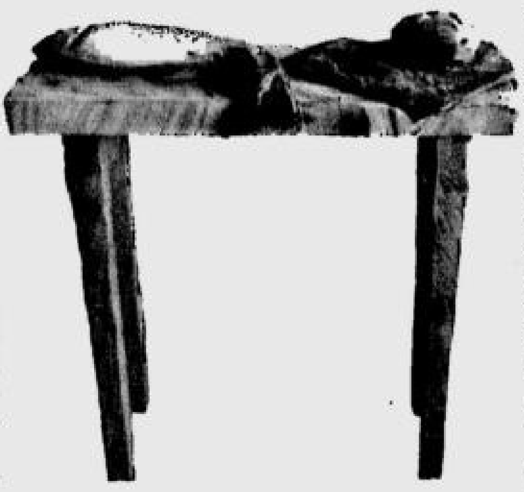

"FLYING Figure over a Starry Night"

while the image of a female is forming through his ribs. Two round objects reddishly glow a few inches away. This is the creation myth of the West.

"Pasinaya" and "Atang" No. 13 are companion pieces, still lifes of fish carved in lime wood, the first laid on a table and the second on a platter.

The six pieces in cast bronze are just as textured. Even here the metal, which has taken on the grayish-green patina of antiquity, assumes the rough surface of unpolished wood.

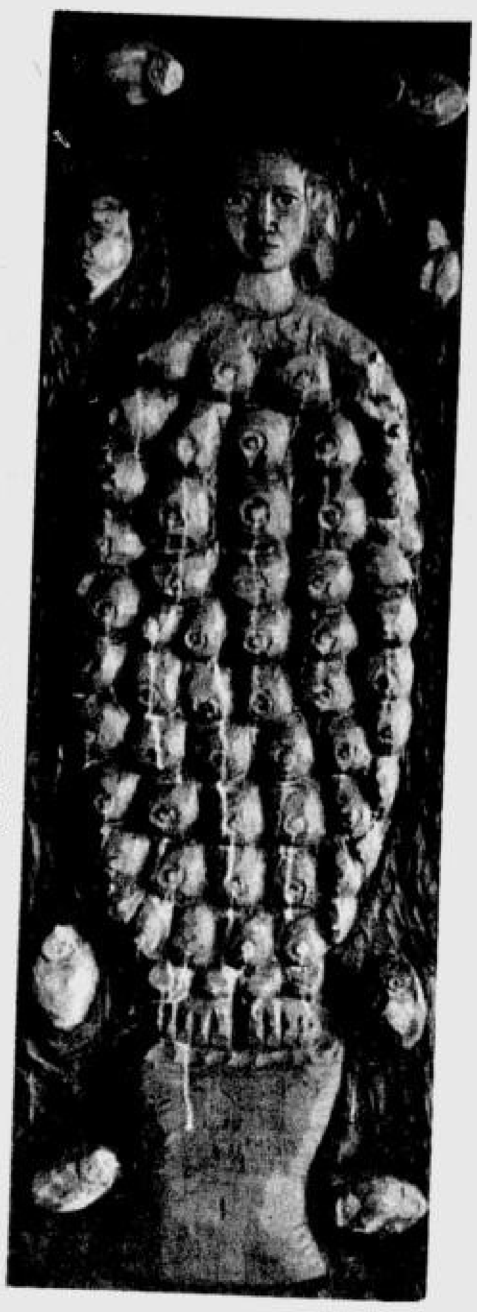
"Three Goddesses" is no more than three bronze figureheads on staffs pegged on a block of wood, yet they could be something as sacral as caryatids, the Three Graces, or the Furies.


"PASINAYA"

Also related and forming a set are "Metamorphosis," "Messengers and Stars," "The Virgin and the Unicorn" (according to Western mythology, the fabled beast can be tamed only by a virgin), "The Origin of Man" 1-2 (the egg, symbol of fertility and origin, is here coated with a golden sheen to set it apart from the dull slate-green of the metal).

Mosques and churches

The three ceramic pieces—"Big Platter with Two Fish," "Small Platter with Two Fish" and "Round Platter with Two Owls"—hand-painted in red, green, yellow and black, could be used as dinnerware but they'd be better appreciated on the wall.


"MEBUYAN"

The seven woodcuts on paper, in black, white, gray, orange, gold and yellow, invariably depict hemispherical forms evocative of the domes of mosques and churches.

"Mother and Child" is the iconic image of the Madonna and Child beautifully rendered in gray and white, black outline, orange dots. "Veiled Woman" is a mournful face of a Middle Eastern woman in three variants.

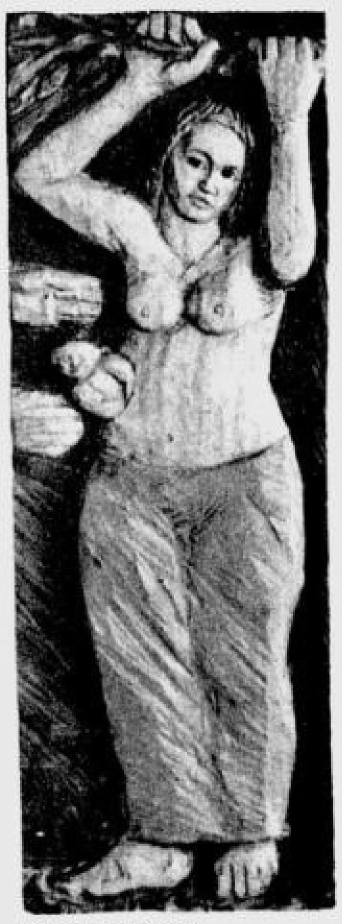
"Lady of the Owls," in full orange robe printed with black owls and forming half of an ovoid, must be Minerva. The goddess of wisdom with her familiars is ubiquitous in ancient religions of both East and West.

"Flying Messenger" could be Mercury, messenger of the Roman deities. Or an angel from Eastern religions swooping down from the sky.

"Mask," in gold and yellow the most brilliant of the prints, ostensibly of a fencing mask, could be an African tribal mask. Or a robot emerging from the rubble of Western civilization.

That must be reading too much from these images. Yet, considering the sophistication of this artist, we can't be too far.

"It is like myth," Diaz says of his exhibit. "It brings us back far away in time to tell us of a simple story or a heroic deed, from which we can bring something relevant to our lives."


"QUEEN Maya"

iACADEMY

In June, iACADEMY students begin work in these world-class companies.

IBM
Sun microsystems
Ayala Systems Technology, Inc.
BPI
WEBWORKS
GLOBE TELECOM
SMART
JUPITER SYSTEMS, INC.
WhyCow! ANIMATION
Equitable PCI BANK Your Bank of Choice

iACADEMY wishes to thank our industry partners for helping us develop and implement a unique, real-world based 7-month internship programs for our students.

iACADEMY is now accepting applicants for June 2005

Courses
B.S. Computer Science Major in Software Engineering
B.S. Computer Science Major in Network Engineering
B.S. Information Technology Major in Digital Arts
B.S. Information Technology Major in eCommerce
B.S. Business Administration Major in eManagement

Learn Global. Live Digital.
Entrance Examinations Ongoing. Apply Now.

Call 891-3727 891-3865
iACADEMY Campus: 3/F Phil. First Building, 6764 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Apply online at www.iacademy.ph or send an email to inquire@iacademy.ph
ACADEMIC & FINANCIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Exhibit of Orlina photographs

LUMIERE Gallery is presenting the exhibit "Photographs of Kyoto and Nara" by Ramon Orlina, which opens April 16, 4 p.m. and runs until May 7.

In 1994, on a visit to Japan to represent the Philippines at a conference of the International Artists Association (IAA), Orlina took the opportunity to visit world heritage sites Kyoto and Nara.

Orlina's interest in architecture is seminal and actually pre-dates his sculpture. He graduated from UST with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1965. He was a practicing architect in the firm of Carlos D. Arguelles and Associates from 1967 to 1970. He had his own firm till 1975.

His exposure to architecture is immediately evident upon seeing the photographs on exhibit. Orlina's lifelong interest in architecture forms the basis of his interest in the pursuit of the preservation of historical buildings.

The artist has taken a detour from his regular schedule of producing his much-admired and highly collectible glass sculptures to produce this body of work to call attention to the need to preserve cultural sites.

A forum organized by the Heritage Conservation Society will also be held on Wednesday, April 27, 4 p.m., at Lumiere to promote greater awareness on the need to preserve our heritage and national patrimony.

JAPANESE heritage structure

A portion from the sale of each artwork will benefit the Heritage Conservation Society, Taal-Charm (Church Historical Authentic Restoration Movement), Blessed Virgin of Caysasay Foundation and the Taal Heritage Foundation.

The artist was a Gold Medalist in Photography in the 1983 Art Association of the Philippines (AAP) Photography Open Competition.

This is the artist's first one-person photography show.

Lumiere Gallery is at the L.V. Locsin Building, Podium Floor, Ayala cor Makati Avenues, Makati City. Call 8122976 or e-mail at lumieremakati@yahoo.com. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Daet festival honors country's first monument to Rizal

IN QUAINT Daet, capital of Camarines Norte, stands the first Rizal monument, one of the less heralded but important historic landmarks pertaining to the national hero.

Situated near a riverine park, the 15-ft pylon was built through the townsfolk's financial contributions. Lt. Colonel Antonio Sanz and Ildefonso Alegre of the Revolutionary Army led its construction in compliance with the 1898 decree of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, then President of the Revolutionary Government, to observe Dec. 30 as a national holiday in "Free Philippines."

The builders broke ground on Dec. 30, 1898, and completed the work in Feb. 1899, antedating by 13 years the one standing at the Luneta, which was erected only in 1912.

By virtue of this act, Camarines Norte became the first province to celebrate Rizal Day.

Designed by artist-Mason Sanz, the monument is composed of a three-tiered stone pylon, its square base surmounted by a two-level triangle, the last one tapering off to a point. The front face contains a black metal slab from the National Historical Commission when it was declared a historical landmark in 1961.

Inscribed on the square podium are Rizal's popular written works—"Noli Me Tangere," "El Filibusterismo" and "Morga."

On both sides of the topmost triangle is an eight-rayed sun, a five-pointed star and the phrase "A Jose Rizal" (To Jose Rizal). But unlike other monuments, it does not have any image of the fallen hero.

According to oral accounts, the base contains a time capsule containing the list of contributors to the construction of the monument. It is also a widely accepted belief that Masons had a very important role in putting up the pylon because of its pronounced Masonic elements. Add to this the fact that Aguinaldo and Sanz were Masons.

"The monument is a source of pride, not only for the local townsfolk but also for all Bicolanos from all walks of life. It also attests to the people's reverence for Rizal and his ideals, despite the fact that he had never set foot in the province," says Abel Icatlo, provincial tourism and cultural officer of .

To highlight its place in history, the provincial government is marking the first Bantayog Festival this month in observance of the 85th founding of the province. The week-long festivities will feature various events such as beach and motor sporting events, art shows, civic-military parade.

On April 14, the 107th anniversary of the 1898 Daet Revolt will be observed, led by descendants of Katipuneros and martyrs killed by the Spaniards after the four-day uprising. The revolt helped pave the way for the liberation of Bicolandia from Spanish rule. A memorial pedestal near the Rizal Monument was also put up in 1996 to honor their memory.

The festival culminates on April 15 with a grand Foundation Day parade, float and street dancing competitions, and a fireworks display.

The festival also aims to showcase Camarines Norte's attractions, such as centuries-old homes and churches, gold-mining communities, pristine beaches, charming islands, historical sites, as well as the innate hospitality of the townsfolk.

Call 054-7214341 or 0910-2346786.

Congratulations to all AHEAD students who passed the 2004-2005 Ateneo, La Salle and U.P. college entrance tests.

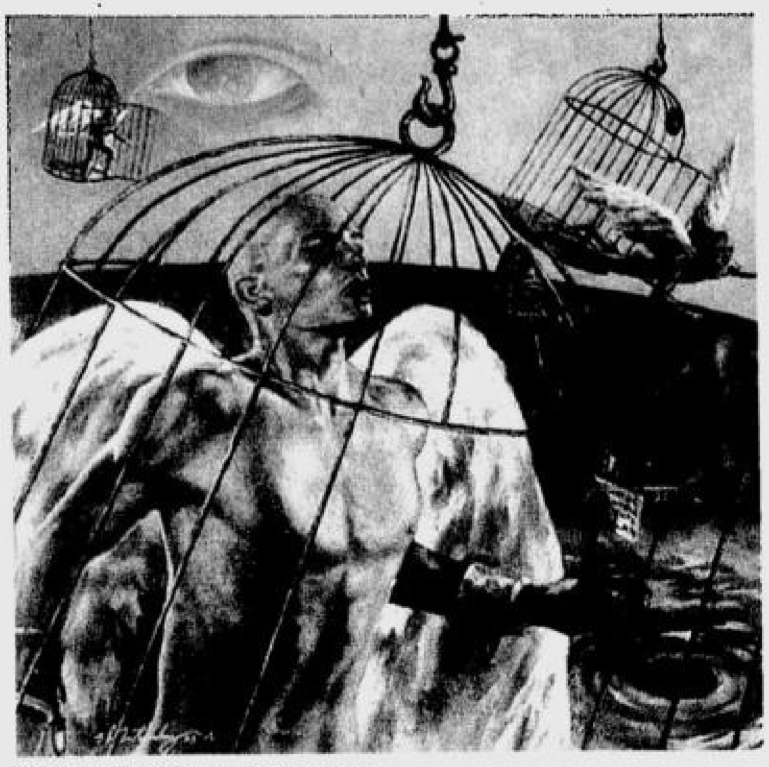
Angelicum College-Karla Michelle Y. Estole • Aquinas School-Otic, Antonio Ray Navallo • Aquinas School, San Juan-Francis Drake C. Santos • Aquinas University Science HS-Maria Ruth B. Arroyo, Edward C. delos Santos • Assumption College, Makati-Georgina Ysabelle L. Abella, Anna Louise T. Anceno, Kristine Grace C. Bagusa, Maristella I. Diwnagracia, Giannina K. Escueta, Micarella Mariz I. Gabriel, Leslie Anne G. Huang, Rita Aleandre M. Kwan, Kathryn Anne Denise F. Lorenzana, Lourdes Angelica P. Marquez, Bernadette Mayumi T. Mortel, Maika S. Noda, Angelyne Milagros H. Pagaspas, Carleen Mae O. Pablo, Mercedes Victoria P. Salazar, Anna Nicole O. Sarmiento, Lara Patricia A. Sotto, Micaela Nicolo A. Tamayo, Erika Anne Marie R. Uy, Vea Kristine R. Vallo • Assumption, Antipolo-Ma. Ana Corazon A. Espiritu, Giselle Ann S. Samaniego • Ateneo de Davao HS-Chino Luis M. Antepuesto, Miguel Alejandro G. Antonio, Stephanie M. Dela Cruz, Katrina Marie S. Diano, Andrea Doreen B. Maranan • Ateneo de Manila HS-Danilo V. Alcoseba, Allan Justin G. Azurin, Nicolo Andrew V. Badillo, Gian A. Banzon, Nikko David B. Bautista, Carl Benjamin D. Co, Francis F. Crisostomo, Dan Joseph T. Cruz, Juan Miguel L. Cruz, Kristoffer Paolo C. Cruz, Paolo Jose T. de Guzman, Jose Benedicto B. Duhaylongsod, Miguel Santiago S. Echanis, Raymund V. Enriquez, Michael Francis A. Fer, Xandre Gaerlan, Gian Paolo B. Gancayco, Jose Anton T. Gogungco, Tadashi Edward R. Kotake, Ernesto Daniel L. Layug, Alcarlo Raul L. Lenon, Gabriel R. Magno, Jonathan R. Maniago, Gerardo Martin dR. Mercado, John Edison M. Munsayac, Miguel K. Munsayac, Rafael Lorenzo O. Narciso, Jose Miguel B. Ocampo, Herwin D. Ochoa, Paolo A. Poblador, Gideon E. Ponio, Francis Paolo B. Roco, Timothy M. Salak, Ralph Ralston S. Sam, Michael Martin Y. San Pablo, Bryan Angelo D. Sayson, Paulo Alberto T. Sicangco, Ramel T. Taroy, S. Noel Dela P. Torres, Niño Divino B. Tuason, Glenn Anthony M. Villaluz, Ralph Patrick U. Villaluz, Mark Gregory R. Villanueva, Timothy Paul D. Villarica, Bien Francis R. Yap, John Ronnette L. Zambrano • Ateneo de Naga HS-Edwin Marlon C. Basmayor • Bloomfield Academy, Las Piñas-Leeanne Therese E. Yabut • Bulacan State University-Japeth Zerah M. Umali • Claret School, QC-Michael Enzo E. Enriquez, Jeremy Laurence A. Loreto, Caritas Don Bosco School, Laguna-Isobel Angeli S. Francisco • Cataingan National HS, Masbate-Lara Porsche B. Abo • Chiang Kai Shek College-Monica Kristine L. Madera, Stevenson S. Sze • Child Development and Guidance Center-Kathiene Kaye F. Pagtakhan • Christian Academy of Manila Inc.-Hannah P. Quiñones • Colegio de Sta. Rosa, Makati-Susangrid B. Lampitoc, Jalla Christine M. Silan, Fey Kristina P. Sinocruz, Elizabeth A. Unay • Colegio San Agustin, Biñan-Dean Julius T. Giron • Colegio San Agustin, Makati-Jon Virgil V. Angeles, Michael Joseph P. Cabauatan, Stephen Anthony L. Chung, Maria Cristina M. Giron, Martin Joseph Y. Juco, Joseph Benjamin T. Pasia, Martha Josephine Q. Puey, Kathreen Iris R. Quinto, Jose Gabriel U. Sicangco • College of the HS, Tarlac-Ysabella Kristina M. Poblete • Corpus Christi School, Cagayan de Oro City-Marie Danielle G. Pelaez • De La Salle Lipa Unified School-Monica Rexanne B. Baldeo • De La Salle Santiago Zobel-Isidro Gabriel III F. Alcantara, Marian P. Ching, Lalaine Jerrude L. Hablado, Albert E. Lamberte, Angela M. Mendoza, Bianca G. Silva, Anna Janina L. Tempongko • Divine Word College, Occidental Mindoro-Joanne Gamit Juano • Don Bosco Technical College, Mandaluyong-Francis Oliver A. Lee, Bryan T. Redolfin, Jose Leonardo V. Sabio, Joseph Gabriel L. Zafra, Charleston W. Perez • Faith Christian School-Ralph Joseph A. Peñaojas • Gospel Light Christian Academy, QC-Isaac D. de Leon • Grace Christian HS-Allan Benson S. Chua, Janice L. Chua, Lizelle Barbara S. Chua, Christopher C. Kwok, Jann Christopher V. Ong, Kingsley U. Pua • Holy Family School-Nicole Ranna M. Hao, Adela Angelica C. Lazaro • Holy Spirit Academy-Justine A. Millare • Holy Spirit, Malolos-Melissa Iris E. Carreon • Iloilo Central Commercial HS-Marc Gerald S. Go • Immaculate Concepcion Academy-Camille Angelica C. Chua, Joy Cheryl P. Chua, Caroline Tricia C. Chung, Monica Camille C. Co, Rachel Gianne Carla D. Co, Karyl Alexer C. Coseto, Celine Melanie A. Dee, Dorothy Darryl O. How, Krisella T. Lao, Carla A. Ongsingco, Patricia S. See, Eda Mara L. Sy, Marjori Jan T. Sy, Blanche Joan T. T eh, Michelle Dominique R. Wong, Katherine Rose Lee P. Yam, Kimberly N. Yao, Andrea Samantha L. Yu, Jennifer C. Yu, Marie Dianne U. Yu • Immaculate Conception Academy, Ilocos Norte-Manessa Glonna D. Ferrer • Immaculate Conception Academy, Manila-Amelle Victoria P. Lising • Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Parañaque-Beverly Ann B. Roña,

AHEAD TUTORIAL & REVIEW

Complete list available in www.aheadph.com
TO BE CONTINUED

Main: 2/F FBR Bldg. 317 Katipunan Ave. 426-0034 to 36
SM Megamall: 5/F Bldg. B (in front of Megatrade Hall 1)
Greenhills: 2/F Providence Bldg., 55 Annapolis St. 722-7258 / 722-8152
Robinsons Galleria: Park Avenue, Ortigas cell: 0917-8958483

www.aheadph.com



"KALASAG," Raphael Pagarigan

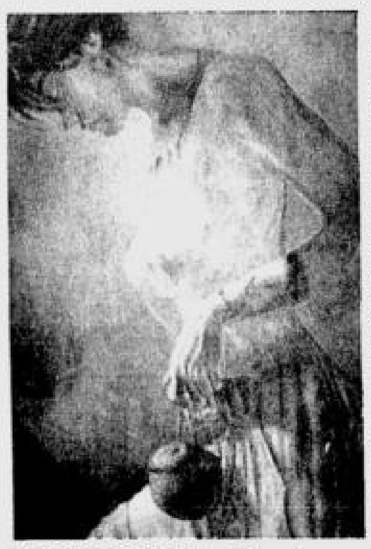
Freshly conjured indie art

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

AN ART gallery south of Metro Manila, in the heart of Sta. Cruz, Laguna, Nineveh Artspace has been making waves, mainly with the dynamic quality of art it is promoting in its calendar.

This month, Nineveh has four artists collaborating on an exhibit called "Exodus." Curated by Noel Soler Cuizon, it features freshly-conjured visuals on the Biblical event which alludes to the personal quest for freedom.

All four artists are graduates of the University of the Philippines' College of Fine Arts in Diliman, and three had attended the Philippine High School for the Arts in Makiling. Only two, however, have their works in the exhibit. The works of Jeremiah Correa and Reynald Mujeres will be featured in a forthcoming show.



"PAGHAHANDA—Ritwal ng Paghatud," by Kristienne Baquiran

Juanito Torres of Pulilan, Bulacan, and Raphael Patnubay Pagarigan of Antipolo City, rework the show's theme by infusing some personal insights into various events that hark back to the millenarian movements at the turn of the 1900s, an apocalyptic era for Filipinos breaking away from colonial bondage.

There are of 11 paintings in the show, with both English and Filipino titles, all rendered in a wittily surreal style.

In "Kalasag," Pagarigan has three winged men in captivity, although they are shown to be freed from their cages. The image is at once amusing and disturbing: Freedom must be attained at great cost.

Pagarigan, a grand awardee in the 1988 Caltex DOST Science Art Competition, is worked up on Philippine religious beliefs, as dramatized in "God Is with Us," which shows a lady with a halo—obviously a dig at the way fanatics go about brandishing their religious shields.

Juanito Torres, an art director ("Captain Barbel") who also dabbles in experimental film, has pieces dealing with the millennarian movements. In "Aguinaldo's Passion," as well as in "Ritwal," the artist delves into the practices of faith healers, who become the medium in exorcising objects of demonic possession.

Both Pagarigan and Torres paint in the same style that combines hyperrealist touches with satirical jabs at our follies and foibles. They also have an excellent sense of our history and Pinoy sociology, which they exploit to comment on our present-day malaise.

Eloquent portraits

In another section of Nineveh is a two-man show, "When Everyone Is Everything," by Rommer Fajardo and Lynyrd Arwyn Paras, who both studied at Technological University of the Philippines.

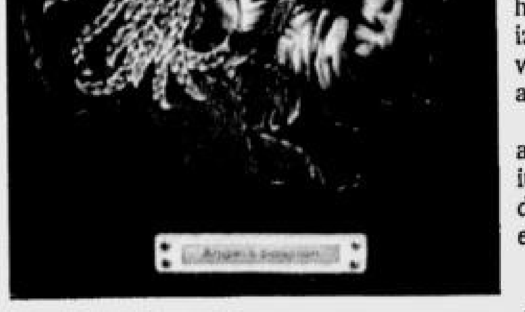
Both are award-winners in various competitions, and they have made eloquent postmodernist portraits of people with nondescript personas, a gallery of collective angst. The works are arresting for their ability to reveal a welter of emotions in well-defined facial contortions and contractions.

Meanwhile, a solo show at the Nineveh, "Landscapes in My Dreams," is a collection of the latest paintings by Dominic Rubio, who is adept in his portraits of women—indigenous and exotic in their delineation. The works, however, are more magical than real, having been jazzed up with bright neon colors and surrealistic touches that recall the latter-day Lamarroza and Ibarra de la Rosa.

Over at the Kanlungan ng Sining, Rizal Park, home to the AAP, a group show of Far Eastern University Institute of Architecture and Design graduates, "Neo: A New Generation in Philippine Art," is ongoing until April 12. The five young artists are Carlene Bambico, Kristienne Baquiran, Lindous Carreon, Cesar Diego and Jerry Macatuno.

Baquiran paints subjects like those of Torres—shamans and faith healers devoid of any serious insight.

Bambico is clearly fascinated with the gadget of cigarette vendor, the improvised wooden box where they store their ware while plying the streets of the city. The idea may have been ingenious, but Bambico could have thought deeper about its significance other than the sound it makes whenever vendors release the wooden cover.



"ANGEL'S Passion," by Jerry Macatuno

The rest of the paintings—angels with finely delineated hairpieces, portraits of women in wildly contrasting appearances—are superficially interesting visually, but they could have been conceptualized and executed with more maturity and depth.

Youth is admittedly an awkward stage, but it could also be a wonderful time for discovery and adventure.

E-mail gdormiendo@yahoo.com

Canon
Delighting You Always
YOU LIVE BY YOUR OWN RULES
HERE'S THE PERFECT PARTNER
THE NEW DIGITAL IXUS 700
Where style meets substance.

7.1 megapixels • 3x optical zoom • 4x digital zoom • Powered by DIGIC II • Digital zoom during movie recording • Three Movie Mode options for different recording needs • Built-in video editing • My Colors Function for colour customisation • Optional High Power Flash

No other compact digital camera defies convention like the new Digital IXUS 700. A camera built for pictures of unbelievably high resolution. A camera designed to render every image with amazing colours and precise detail. A camera shaped with sleek lines and beautiful finishes to make photography truly pleasurable. It could only be the Digital IXUS 700. A camera created to go beyond boundaries. Just like you.

NEW IXUS 50
- 5 megapixels
- 3x optical zoom
- 4x digital zoom
- Powered by DIGIC II

IXUS 40
- 4 megapixels
- 3x optical zoom
- 3.6x digital zoom
- Powered by DIGIC II

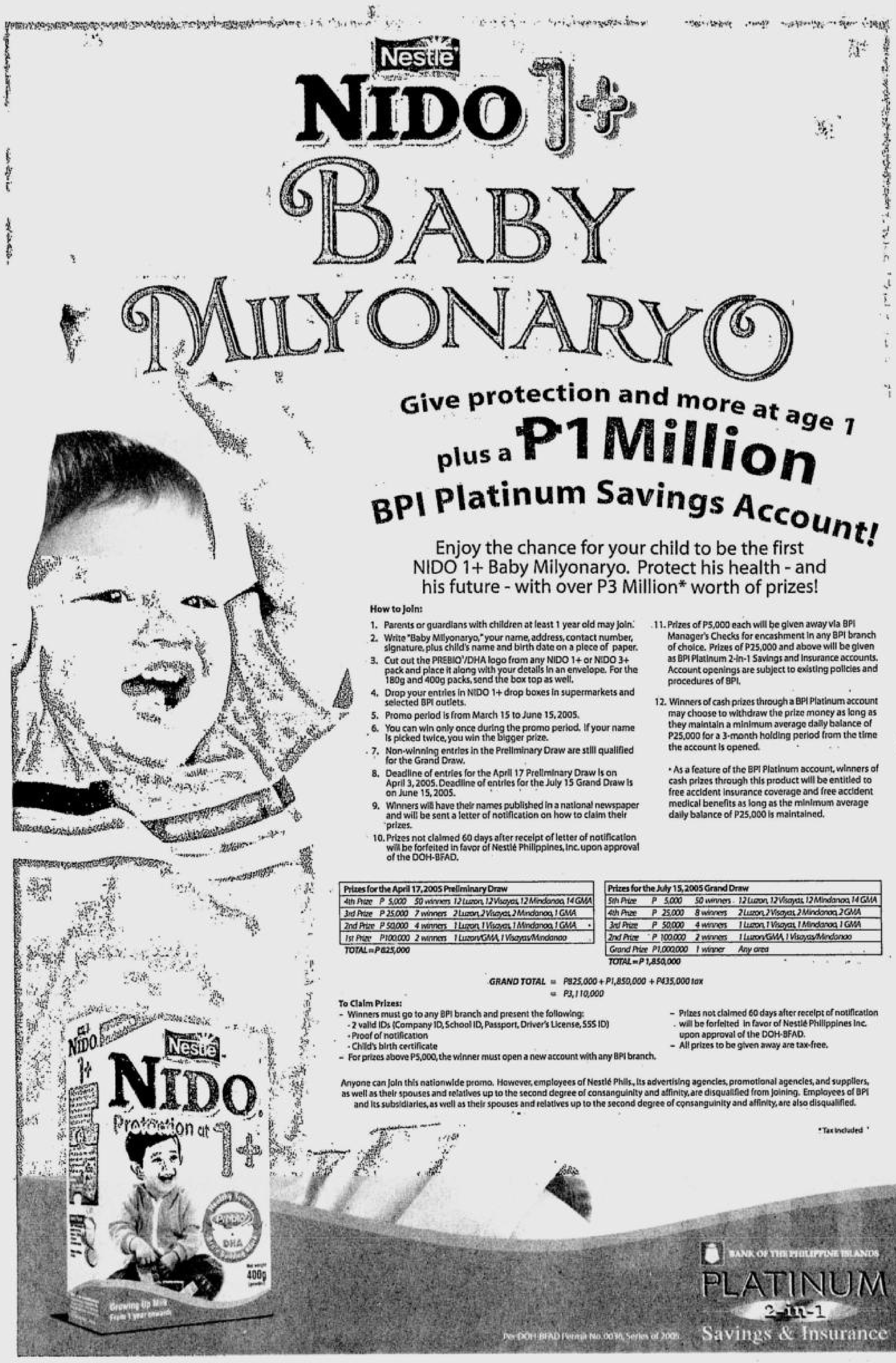
IXUS 30
- 3.2 megapixels
- 3x optical zoom
- 3.2x digital zoom
- Powered by DIGIC II

IXUS 7
- 5 megapixels
- 6.5x digital zoom
- Powered by DIGIC

Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

POWERED BY DIGIC II

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:
Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 www.canon-asia.com
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
Tels.: 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-6449 • Fax: 810-9797 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph


Nestlé

NIDO 1+

BABY MILYONARYO

Give protection and more at age 1 plus a P1 Million BPI Platinum Savings Account!

Enjoy the chance for your child to be the first NIDO 1+ Baby Milyonaryo. Protect his health - and his future - with over P3 Million* worth of prizes!

How to Join:

1. Parents or guardians with children at least 1 year old may join.
2. Write "Baby Milyonaryo," your name, address, contact number, signature, plus child's name and birth date on a piece of paper.
3. Cut out the PREBIO'/DHA logo from any NIDO 1+ or NIDO 3+ pack and place it along with your details in an envelope. For the 180g and 400g packs, send the box top as well.
4. Drop your entries in NIDO 1+ drop boxes in supermarkets and selected BPI outlets.
5. Promo period is from March 15 to June 15, 2005.
6. You can win only once during the promo period. If your name is picked twice, you win the bigger prize.
7. Non-winning entries in the Preliminary Draw are still qualified for the Grand Draw.
8. Deadline of entries for the April 17 Preliminary Draw is on April 3, 2005. Deadline of entries for the July 15 Grand Draw is on June 15, 2005.
9. Winners will have their names published in a national newspaper and will be sent a letter of notification on how to claim their prizes.
10. Prizes not claimed 60 days after receipt of letter of notification will be forfeited in favor of Nestlé Philippines, Inc. upon approval of the DOH-BFAD.
11. Prizes of P5,000 each will be given away via BPI Manager's Checks for encashment in any BPI branch of choice. Prizes of P25,000 and above will be given as BPI Platinum 2-in-1 Savings and Insurance accounts. Account openings are subject to existing policies and procedures of BPI.
12. Winners of cash prizes through a BPI Platinum account may choose to withdraw the prize money as long as they maintain a minimum average daily balance of P25,000 for a 3-month holding period from the time the account is opened.

• As a feature of the BPI Platinum account, winners of cash prizes through this product will be entitled to free accident insurance coverage and free accident medical benefits as long as the minimum average daily balance of P25,000 is maintained.

Prizes for the April 17,2005 Preliminary Draw			
4th Prize	P 5,000	50 winners	12 Luzon, 12 Visayas, 12 Mindanao, 14 GMA
3rd Prize	P 25,000	7 winners	2 Luzon, 2 Visayas, 2 Mindanao, 1 GMA
2nd Prize	P 50,000	4 winners	1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao, 1 GMA
1st Prize	P100,000	2 winners	1 Luzon/GMA, 1 Visayas/Mindanao

TOTAL = P825,000

Prizes for the July 15,2005 Grand Draw			
5th Prize	P 5,000	50 winners	12 Luzon, 12 Visayas, 12 Mindanao, 14 GMA
4th Prize	P 25,000	8 winners	2 Luzon, 2 Visayas, 2 Mindanao, 2 GMA
3rd Prize	P 50,000	4 winners	1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao, 1 GMA
2nd Prize	P 100,000	2 winners	1 Luzon/GMA, 1 Visayas/Mindanao
Grand Prize	P1,000,000	1 winner	Any area

TOTAL = P 1,850,000

GRAND TOTAL = P825,000 + P1,850,000 + P435,000 tax
= P3,110,000

To Claim Prizes:

- Winners must go to any BPI branch and present the following:
  - 2 valid IDs (Company ID, School ID, Passport, Driver's License, SSS ID)
  - Proof of notification
  - Child's birth certificate
- For prizes above P5,000, the winner must open a new account with any BPI branch.
- Prizes not claimed 60 days after receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of Nestlé Philippines Inc. upon approval of the DOH-BFAD.
- All prizes to be given away are tax-free.

Anyone can join this nationwide promo. However, employees of Nestlé Phils., its advertising agencies, promotional agencies, and suppliers, as well as their spouses and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity, are disqualified from joining. Employees of BPI and its subsidiaries, as well as their spouses and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity, are also disqualified.

*Tax included

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
PLATINUM
2-in-1
Savings & Insurance

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0036, Series of 2005.
NIDO 1+
Nestlé
NIDO
Protection at 1+
DHA
400g
Growing-Up Milk
From 1 year onwards

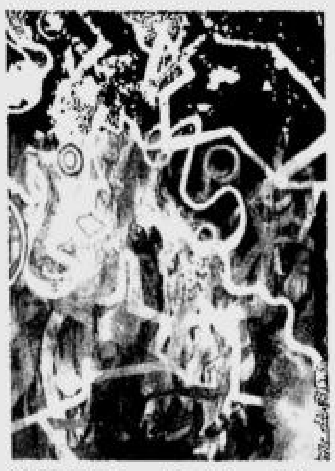
THE OPENING of Rafael Gonzales' (third from left) exhibit at Ayala Museum was graced by Gloria Angara, Malang Santos, Dr. Cesar Ubaldo and Amb. Jose Zaide.

Free photography lectures

SOME 60 outstanding photos by members of camera clubs affiliated with the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation are on exhibit/sale until April 29 at the SSS Gallery in the Social Security System Building, QC. The exhibit features people, places and events. Free lectures will be held on "Career Opportunities in Photography," April 21, 1-4 p.m.; and "Basic Photography: Understanding Digital Photography," April 14. Call 8137420/ 8435341/8447769.

ALLIANCE Française de Manille presents a group exhibit entitled "Introspection" on April 12-29 at Alliance Annex Gallery, 2/F, LRI Business Plaza, 210 N. Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati. The collection surveys artists' constructs of "self" in various visual art forms: paintings, fine prints, mosaic, mixed media works and installation.

PATRICK de Veyra's fascination with images continue in "Assault and Retrieve," at West Gallery, West Avenue, QC. On view from April 12 to 30 are his latest acrylic collages that play around contrasts, structure and imagery. Call 4110336/ 4119221/ 3721194.



"ASSAULT and Retrieve II," by Patrick de Veyra

VISUAL ARTS

WEST Gallery showcases Cid Reyes' "Demoiselles de Manille" on April 14-26 at West Gallery, Megamall A. In this show, the critic-artist works on the human figure, rendered in the abstract expressionist idiom. Call 6341284.

TIKTALAOK, the folk artists group of Pililla, Rizal, mount their first group exhibit, "Unang Bugso" on April 16-29 at Silangan Gallery restaurant, Manila East Road, Pililla. Proceeds from the exhibit will be used for the restoration of Pililla's 400-year-old St. Mary Magdalene Parish Church.

JUSTIN Nuyda's "Search Mindscapes" series will go on exhibit on April 16-May 3 at Galleria Duemila, 4/L, Megamall A. Land, sea and sky merge in Nuyda's surreal paintings. His topography of mountains and valleys is dramatized from different viewpoints. Call 6343261/ 8319990.

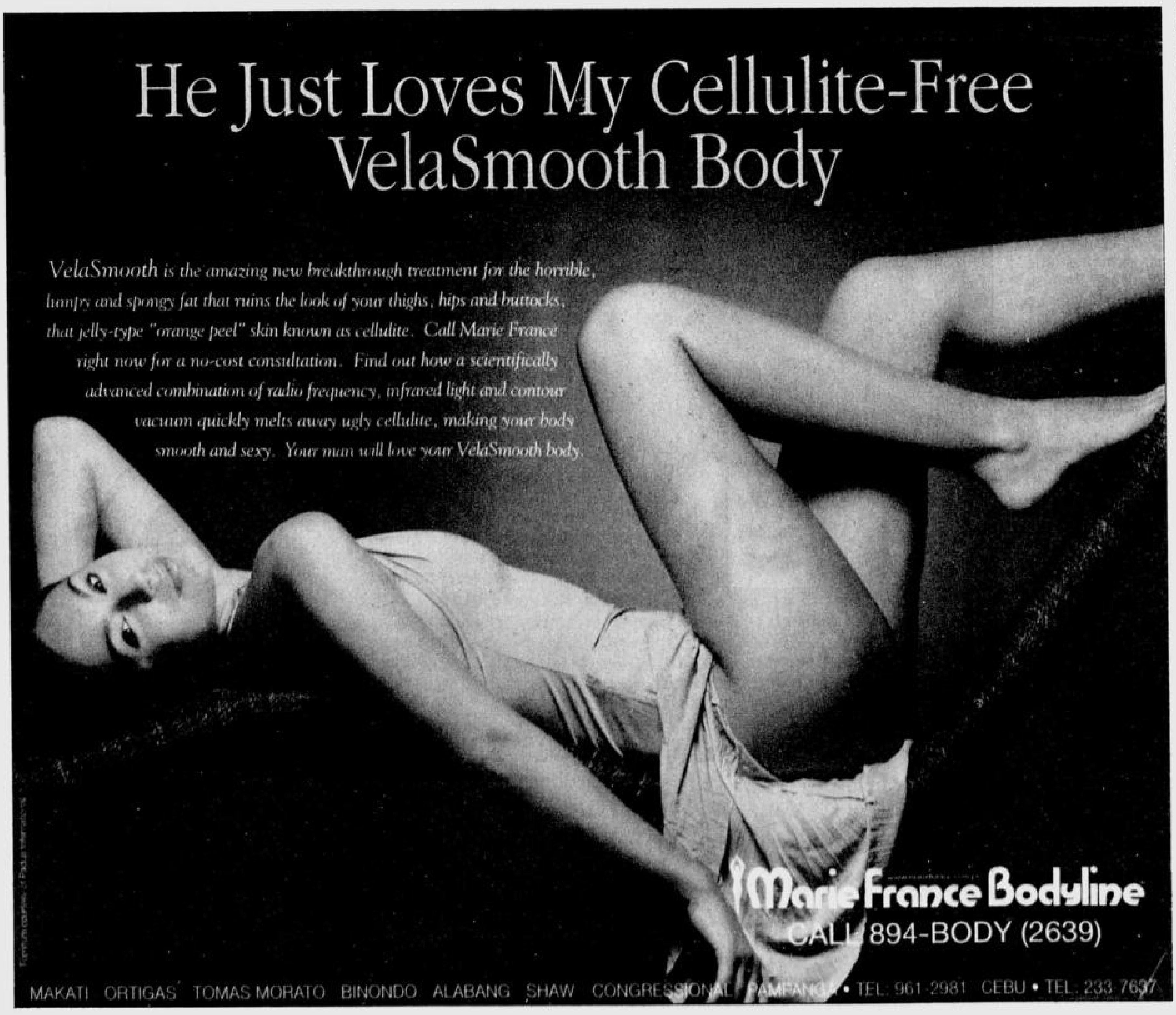
GALERIE Astra mounts Dionesio Gonzales' "Journey" until April 21 at Art Pavilion, 2/F LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia St., Makati. The artist's abstract works have been inspired by his travels to places rich in culture and arts. Call 8903988/ 7243032/ 7269015.

METAL sculptor Carlito Ortega of San Pablo, Laguna and watercolorist Leonardo Reyes of Cavite hold their two-man exhibit. "Metal and Water" is ongoing until May 15 at Galleria Esperanza, Kusina Salud Compound, Brgy. Sta. Cruz Putol, San Pablo City, Laguna. Call (049) 2466878/ (0921) 7726985/ 7265058/ 7244231/ 7252686.

THE DRAWING Room features Maya Munoz's "Silencio" on April 23-May 17 at the G/F, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati. Her works are like meditations on loneliness, loss, despair, longing. The artist shows how these emotions may not be a source of depression but instead can be one of beauty and momentary peace. Call 8976990/ 8977877.

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Photographers Foundation will hold a basic painting/art seminar for kids on April 19-22, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila. Prof. Cecilia Angeles, faculty member of Fine Arts and English departments of Feati University and Philippine Women's University, will conduct the seminar. Call 8435341/ 8137420.

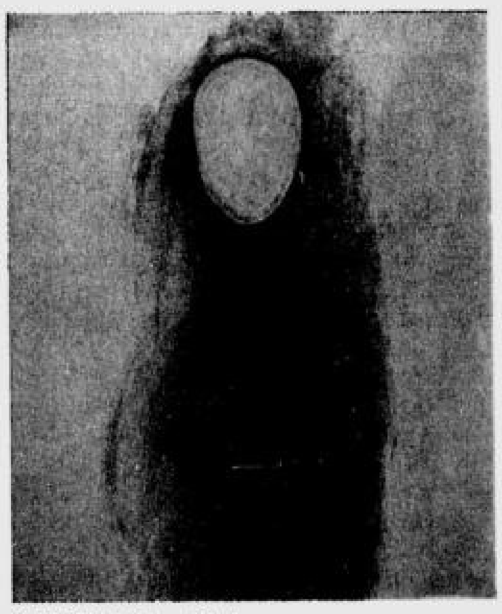
ART lessons for children 3-12 years old and 13 years old and above are held every Thursday, 3-5 p.m., at Christ the King Parish formation center, Greenmeadows, QC; Friday, 3-5 p.m., Patio Manila restaurant, lower ground floor, Ramon Magsaysay Center, Roxas Blvd., Malate, Manila; and Wednesday, 5:50-7:30 p.m., Herald Suites, Chino Roces Ave., Makati. Call 8112432/ 09275522288.


He Just Loves My Cellulite-Free VelaSmooth Body

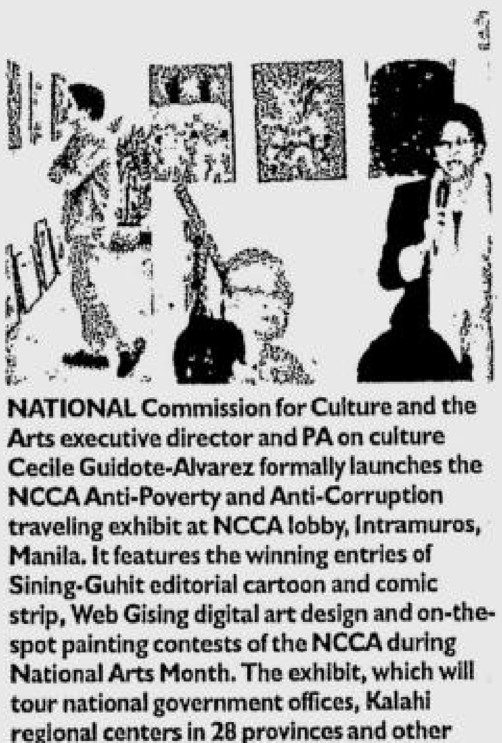
VelaSmooth is the amazing new breakthrough treatment for the horrible, lumpy and spongy fat that ruins the look of your thighs, hips and buttocks, that jelly-type "orange peel" skin known as cellulite. Call Marie France right now for a no-cost consultation. Find out how a scientifically advanced combination of radio frequency, infrared light and contour vacuum quickly melts away ugly cellulite, making your body smooth and sexy. Your man will love your VelaSmooth body.

Marie France Bodyline
CALL 894-BODY (2639)

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA • TEL: 961-2981 CEBU • TEL: 233-7637



"SELF," by Maya Muñoz



NATIONAL Commission for Culture and the Arts executive director and PA on culture Cecile Guidote-Alvarez formally launches the NCCA Anti-Poverty and Anti-Corruption traveling exhibit at NCCA lobby, Intramuros, Manila. It features the winning entries of Sining-Guhit editorial cartoon and comic strip, Web Gising digital art design and on-the-spot painting contests of the NCCA during National Arts Month. The exhibit, which will tour national government offices, Kalahi regional centers in 28 provinces and other popular venues nationwide, is in line with President Arroyo's policy of underscoring the importance of culture and arts education in fighting poverty and corruption.